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NEW PAGES IN HISTORY, 1957
EDITED BY J. NORMAN EMERSON

NEWS AND REPORTS

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ABRAHAM SLOOT, PIONEER BAPTIST LAY MINISTER OF WESTMINSTER TOWNSHIP

By Charles Deane Kent

Colonization and religion are inseparably linked. Wherever colonists go, there the religious go also. People are born, people are married and people die; in every eventuality clergymen are needed. In some cases, as for example with the Roman Catholic Church in Canada, religious orders may have actually been with the colonists or may have preceded them; whereas in other cases, notably that of the dissenting groups of the Protestant faith, the need for religious comfort and help was met, either by clergymen from outside or by lay preachers from within the group. The head of the home frequently acted as a spiritual guide, reading the Bible and leading in prayer. Very often the lay preacher system, particularly with the Baptists and Methodists, was the normal one in pioneering days in Upper Canada.

In tracing through some of the early records of Westminster Township, County of Middlesex, the name, Abraham Sloot, appears from time to time. This man is mentioned in several pioneer connections as a farmer-settler and as a preacher. Although information about him is fragmentary, he is worthy of note for a picture is presented to us of a man devoted to the land and to God, a man who transmitted the precious heritage of earlier ages and more distant places into a pioneer environment.

As early as 1803, two American Baptist missionaries, Lemuel Covell and Obed Warren, travelled from Niagara to Long Point in company with "an old Baptist brother named Sloot".[1] The three men set out from Archibald Thomas' home in Stamford on Monday, October 3rd, 1803 and, travelling westward towards Long Point and the Thames River settlements and holding services along the way, they arrived at Long Point on Saturday, October the 8th. From Covell's account no mention is made of Sloot returning to the Niagara Frontier so possibly Sloot may only have been returning to Long Point and his own home from a sojourn in the Stamford-Queenston area. Of course he might merely have returned to the Niagara frontier afterwards or by a different route than that by which Covell and Warren travelled.

Undoubtedly this man was a relation of Abraham Sloot's but whether he was father or uncle is impossible to determine. If he was the father

1. Lemuel Covell, *A narrative of a Missionary Tour through the Western Settlements of the State of New York and into the south-western parts of the Province of Upper Canada,* performed by Lemuel Covell of Pittstown, in company with Elder Obed Warren of Salem, in the Fall of 1803; with an appendix containing several speeches to and from the Indians (Pittstown, July, 1804). Reprinted in Mrs. D. C. Brown, *Memoir of Lemuel Covell* (Boston, 1835), and partly reprinted in *Buffalo Historical Society Publications,* VI, 215 ff. Mentioned in Ivison & Rosser, *The Baptists in Upper and Lower Canada before 1820* (Toronto, 1956), 40 ff.

of Abraham Sloot, the subject of this study, he was still alive in 1817, as documents presented below will show. Described by Covell as "old" in 1803, he would have been still older in 1817. Several times in the ensuing decade mention is made of an Abraham Sloot in the minutes of the Beamsville (Clinton) Baptist Church—in 1805, 1809, and in 1812. Could this have been Covell's "old Baptist brother" of 1803? Or was this the Abraham Sloot we know, who survived into the mid-century? All we can do is conjecture.

Abraham Sloot, as a person, is first mentioned definitely in the minutes of the Beamsville (Clinton) Baptist Church. The entry for the 22nd of July, 1805, says,

> the church met according to appointment and after prayer proceeded to business. Abraham Sloot came forward who had once been a member of this church and was dismissed by letter but their being no church where he then resided but has now removed his abode to a smaller distance from us than formerly and desired to join this church again the church thought proper to adjourn it till the next meeting for business and then to vote by ballot.[2]

Where had Abraham Sloot been? Where was he now? Then four years later, on the 8th of October, 1809, "the church met . . . to business, Abraham Sloot not being present the church thought proper to adjourn it until he does attend."[3] Again a mystery. Why was the meeting adjourned? What was the nature of the business? Just where was Sloot in his absences and what did he do?

Again a third entry two and one half years later, on the 11th of April, 1812, says "the church met according to appointment. After prayer proceeded to hear the committee that was adjourned last meeting whose report is as follows . . .

> Arthur Gray keeping Abraham Sloot 7 weeks
> 8 s per week 2-16-0
> Jacob Beam keeping A. Sloot 6 weeks
> 8 s per week 2-8-0

voted that above accounts be paid out of a note held for the church due January, 1813."[4] Could this entry mean that the "old Baptist brother" was acting as a lay preacher? Not likely if in 1803 he was already described as being "old". Could this entry be evidence that the younger Sloot was a student minister during this period? He could hardly have been a full-time minister in 1811-1812 (unless he was filling in for someone temporarily) or why would he have been boarded only thirteen weeks? Nor is there evidence anywhere that he was unsatisfactory as a preacher and hence was relieved of his duties after thirteen weeks. This could very probably therefore be Sloot's training period for the ministry. (In-

2. Beamsville Baptist Church, *Minutes*, 1807-1859, 16-17.
3. *Ibid*, 17.
4. *Ibid*, 25.

cidentally the fact that he received board and lodging indicates that his home was not in Beamsville, at least in 1812).

It should be mentioned that there is a certain amount of confusion over the name Sloot. All the first-hand evidence over a period of forty years, including Abraham Sloot's own handwriting, shows that his name was spelled as given. Other less reliable sources give variants such as Abram for the Christian name and Sloat, (although this may be simply a matter of poor handwriting), Slaght, Slacht and Slaught as the surname. There was a large settlement of Slacht-Slaght-Slaughts in the Long Point area of Norfolk county and much of their story is given in Owen.[5] Never once in this work does the name Sloot or Sloat appear. Always the name is given as Slacht or Slaght (Slaught is given in Goodspeed.[6]) Owen mentions that old Hendrik Slacht's grandson, William, had a son Abraham, but this Abraham Slacht seems to have been a little younger than Abraham Sloot. And certainly Abraham was a common enough Christian name in those days. In fact Owen carefully traces the genealogy of the Slacht family almost up to the end of the nineteenth century without ever mentioning the surname "Sloot". This would indicate that the Sloots and Slachts-Slaghts are not of the same immediate family, though no doubt the name had a remote common ancestry, with the Sloots being centred around Niagara and the Slachts around Long Point. To add to the confusion, the Slachts were also strong Baptists. One member of the family, the famous Elder Slaght (Rev. Aaron Slacht) attended the Montreal Baptist College and McGill College in the 1840's according to Fitch,[7] a fact also noted by Owen, who goes on to say that the same gentleman became Inspector of Mines for the Province of Ontario in 1890 and Justice of the Peace.[8]

A few years after his puzzling appearance in the records of the Beamsville Church, Abraham Sloot reappears in connection with Robert Gourlay's famous 31 queries which were presented to the inhabitants of the townships of Westminster, Delaware and Dorchester in October, 1817.[9] On the 15th of December in the same year the inhabitants of these three townships gathered at the home of Archibald M'Millan at Westminster Plains "for the purpose of considering the propriety of answering certain Queries submitted to the Resident Land Owners of Upper Canada by Robert Gourlay Esq. in his address of October last, [and] it was unanimously agreed that the said Queries could not be so correctly answered by the people in their collective capacity as by certain discreet persons, delegated by them for that purpose." A committee with Daniel

5. Owen, E. A., *Pioneer Sketches of Long Point Settlements.* (Toronto, 1898), 158 ff.
6. Goodspeed, W. A., and C. C., *History of Middlesex County,* (London, Ont., 1889), 55. This work notes spelling discrepancies.
7. Fitch, E. R., *The Baptists of Canada* (Toronto, 1911), 121.
8. Owen, *op. cit,* 423-424 has a sketch of Rev. Aaron Slaght.
9. Gourlay, Robert, *Statistical Account of Upper Canada* (London, 1822), 306 ff.

Springer, of Delaware, as chairman was set up, "to answer the said queries in such a manner as to them might seem expedient."[10]

In his book Gourlay not only gives some of the actual material from the Springer Committee in answer to his Queries but he also gives tabulated information from the "certain discreet persons" chosen by the committee. And one of the nineteen so singled out for listing was our Abraham Sloot. Like another member of the group, John Smith, Sloot had received a free land grant, so Gourlay reported, because he was an United Empire Loyalist. Gourlay, however also mentions that Abraham Sloot was born in Canada and had spent a "lifetime" in Canada. (John Smith had been born in the States but had spent thirty years in Canada.) Presumably Gourlay meant that Sloot was the son of a loyalist, which would automatically entitle him to a grant of free land. A later document, indeed, calls Sloot "a brittish born subject". That he was of impeccable loyalist antecedents may be taken as proved by the fact that Sloot was one of the settlers located by Colonel Talbot for it is unlikely that that irascible old Tory would have granted land to an individual unless he too were a loyal Tory. Americans of all stripes the Colonel suspected of being tainted with republicanism. Sloot must have been loyal enough for Colonel Talbot not merely to receive land in the first place but also to be able to retain it. The Colonel had been known to write a man's name on the land map for a grant and then to erase that name and give the land to someone else.

Sloot's fellow settlers of 1817 paid £41 and 1 shilling for 200 acres. Of the nineteen only three began improvements on their land before Sloot, so presumably Sloot was one of the earliest settlers in the district. Gourlay reports that Sloot was a carpenter and a farmer, that his family comprised his wife and three children, and that the 20' by 20' house also sheltered his mother and father. (Seven people in an area 20' x 20'—possibly a single room!) He possessed one cow, but no oxen, horse or sheep.[11] He had four acres in crop and reaped, and 5½ "chopt" acres. Sloot must have been exceedingly busy in the months after his arrival in February 1817 to have cleared nearly ten acres by the time of Gourlay's information in October of that same year.

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10. *Ibid*, 302 ff. The answers mention that there was no church in Westminster, but that the area was visited by itinerant preachers. (Also that there were two taverns.) Westminster Township, unlike Dorchester and Delaware Townships in which land had been granted to absentee landlords, had been settled by actual settlers, which policy will cause this township soon "to form a most delightful, populous, and wealthy settlement." The committee believed that the crown and clergy reserves should be made available for actual settlers and that absentee landlords should pay a tax on their lands in order to force these landlords to take a greater interest in their property by developing it to pay these high taxes. This would make the province in general "more prosperous and happy." Gourlay's general report on Upper Canada is based on the detailed information which he received from Westminster Township as well as from a number of other communities.

11. Westminster Township Council, *Minutes*, 1817. In the Register of Marks on cattle, sheep and swine in the townships of Westminster, Delaware and Dorchester given in the Minute Book and dated the 19th of July, 1821, Abraham Sloot's mark is "a slit in the end of the left ear." (Page 2 of the register and Page 277 of the minute book).

The first document[12] that I have been able to locate showing a land grant to Sloot is dated the 24th of January, 1835, and is as follows:

> Grant to Abraham Sloot of the Township of Westminster in the County of Middlesex in the District of London Yeoman as a settler located by Colonel Talbot all that parcel of land in the Township of Westminster in the County of Middlesex in the District of London being Lot number 73 East on the North Branch of Talbot Road that is to say commencing on the east side of the North Branch of Talbot Road in the limit between lots nos. 72 and 73 and at the southwest angle of the said lot no. 73 then north 70 degrees east 100 chains more or less, to the allowance for road in the rear of the said lots then north 50 degrees west 20 chains then north 11 degrees 30 minutes west 2 chains 71 links more or less, to the limit between lots 74 and 73 then south 70 degrees west 100 chains more or less to the north branch of Talbot road aforesaid then south 11 degrees 30 minutes East 2 chains 71 links then south 50 degrees east 20 chains more or less to the place of beginning containing 200 acres more or less. For which an allotment of 28 acres and 4 sevenths is made for a Protestant clergy, in lot no. 16 in the seventh concession of the said Township of Westminster, Order in council 4th day of December 1834 under the administration of Sir John Colborne, K.C.B. Lieutenant Governor, for the above 200 acres of land under the regulations of 6 July 1804.
>
> CO No. 2207
> A.G.O. No. 14980
> January 23, 1835
>
> S. P. Hord
> Surveyor General
> SGO fiat no. 3057
> Description No. 12486 AJ
> Settlement duty performed
>
> Surveyor general's Office, Toronto, 24 January 1835.

Many settlers applied for crown grants almost as soon as they were settled on the land or very shortly afterwards. But Sloot who had settled in 1817 did not apply for his grant of land until 1835. (It is presumed that he was applying for registered ownership of his original grant from Colonel Talbot.) Why this was so, is unknown. Possibly as long as Colonel Talbot was active and in command of his settlement Sloot felt his property was safe, but by 1835 dissatisfaction in the area—there were many Americans in Westminster Township—may have caused Sloot to "play it safe" and register his land properly, a view which is confirmed by the Rebellion of 1837-38 and by the changes in municipal government enacted in 1841, resulting in the District Councils Acts which went into effect in 1842. There is, however, no petition that I know of on the part of Sloot seeking this land, although he did submit petitions for additional land later.

The next year Sloot discovered that his grant and other land which he purchased in 1835 or 1836 were not contiguous but lay in two distinct portions. And what was worse, that he had built a house on the land between—on Crown property! We can readily imagine his feelings. He must have had many anxious moments while his petition to buy this land was being considered:

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12. The following documents are from the Public Archives of Canada, Upper Canada Land Petitions "S", Bundle 19 (1836), No. 152. (The land referred to is presumably the land mentioned by Gourlay.)

Read 26th March 1836
To His Excellency Sir Francis Bond Head Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order and of the Prussian Military Order of Merit Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada etc., etc., etc., the petition of Abraham Sloot of Westminster humbly sheweth that your petitioner was granted the Lot no. 73 on the North branch of Talbot Road and has since purchased the rear halves of the adjoining Lots nos. 74 & 75 together with the Westerly half of Lot no. 38 in the 2nd concession all in the Township of Westminster—that between the rear of the said Lot no. 38 in 2nd concession your petitioner found unexpectedly, as the posts on the ground do not show it, by the plan of that Township in the Surveyor General's office upon casually looking over it, there exists a narrow strip of land as shown by the annexed diagram.
That your petitioner intending to settle himself as near as possible in the centre of his property, as above described, ignorant of the existence of the strip, has built a good house thereon, with the materials on the sport for a barn and about fourteen acres under cultivation;—he therefore humbly prays Your Excellency will be pleased to permit him, upon furnishing the proofs of the correctress of the above statements, to purchase the said strip of land, from its situation, as shown above, more valuable to him than to any other individual whatever at the average of that Township fixed by the Commissioner of Crown lands at 15/per acre.

And as in duty bound
Your Petitioner will ever pray
(signed) Abraham Sloot

Toronto
24th March 1836

Three notes are appended to Sloot's petition. These are as follows:

1. The broken lot no. 39 in the second concession of the Township of Westminster containing about 60 acres appears to be vacant and subject to your excellency's pleasure
S. G. O. 21 April, 1836 J. Radenhurst

(This is from the Surveyor-General's office)

2. Commissioner of Crown lands office
Toronto, 28th April 1836
Recommended to be offered for sale this summer at public auction
Peter Robinson

3. In council 11th May 1836
Recommended that petitioner be allowed to purchase at the average price of the Township upon his furnishing proof of the truth of his written statements
order———— ————[13]
3 June 1836

Appended as a separate sheet to these documents is a statement from Benjamin Springer, which is self-explanatory:

Delaware 23rd May 1836

To Whom it may concern

I do hereby certify that at the Request of Abraham Sloot of the Township of Westminster I have examined the narrow lot or strip of land situated on the second concession of the Township of Westminster between lot number thirty-eight and the rear ends of the lots on the east side of the North Branch of Talbot Road in said Township of Westminster and upon which I have found

13. Blanks indicate names, and comments, that I have been unable to read.

a comfortable dwelling House four and a half acres of land under a high state of cultivation upon which there is a good young orchard also one and a half acres chopt [sic] and about two acres underbrushed which improvement said Abraham Sloot states that he made under the impression that the said narrow lot or strip of land was connected with and belonged to the aforesaid lot number thirty-eight the west half of which I also certify has a deed for as well as lot number seventy-three and the north half of lot number seventy-five on the east side of north branch of Talbot road in said Township of Westminster. I also certify that it appears to have been the general belief that the said narrow lot or strip of land did belong to lot number thirty-eight.

Benjamin Springer
Surveyor

The Provincial Archives have a letter written by Abraham Sloot to the Honourable Peter Robinson, Commissioner of Crown Lands, dated 8 July 1836, stating that he is enclosing "the sum of thirty-four pounds, seventeen shillings and sixpence Halifax Currency a Draft on the Bank of Toronto being the full amount of payment for forty-six acres . . . you will therefore pleas forward my Dead thriew the medium of Mr. J. B. Sprag[g]e my agent to take out the Dead and forward the same by the male . . ." A patent to this lot was issued in Abraham Sloot's name on 16th August, 1836. (Sloot's spelling was not of the best, but was probably no better or no worse than the average at the time. At least he could write.)

An order-in-council, dated the 4th of May, 1839, also in the Provincial Archives, indicates that Abraham Sloot, yeoman, be allowed to purchase "the broken lot #39 in the second concession . . . containing about 60 acres at the average price of the township."

Abraham Sloot's property was on the North Branch of the Talbot Road. This section of the famous Talbot Road was between Lambeth and Byron and Sloot's property was on the East side of the Road a mile or so north of Lambeth. At one time Sloot owned something like 560 acres of land in this area. He owned as his original settlement lot 73 (200 acres). He may have owned part of lot 72, but this is somewhat uncertain. Later he bought the rear halves of lots 74 and 75 (100 acres each) and the west half of lot 38—on the second concession—(100 acres) and the broken part of lot 39, also on the second concession (60 acres). His property of 560 acres was close to the junction of the North Talbot Road and the second concession and formed a rough L in shape. The documents given above include a diagram of Sloot's lots.

The Minute Books of the Council of Westminster, which date from 1817, show that Abraham Sloot took an active interest in the life of this pioneer community. In those days nearly everybody, almost through necessity, played some part, however small, in the social and political life of the community. There were in 1817 only 428 people in this Township which had been settled as recently as 1809. The records of the

council show that Abraham Sloot in 1822 was an overseer[14] of the Highway ("voted that Charles Pettis and Abraham Sloot, roadmasters for the North Street, shall each work to the centre of the Mill Creek at high water mark").[15] In 1827 he was again an overseer (9th division on the North St.) and again in 1836 (sworn in on January 16, 1836). The 8th division is mentioned as being in his jurisdiction on the 5th of March, 1836, as well as the division on the allowance for a road to the 2nd concession—also to the North Street. In 1837-38 he was once more an overseer (8th division). In 1842 and in 1847 he was a pathmaster between lots 75-76, to supervise road allowances in the rear of these lots. Sloot performed his work dutifully for it is noted that, unlike some others, he sent his returns and reports to the council. As far as is known he was never a member of the Township Council, nor did he hold any public office, elected or otherwise, other than the above.

He seems to have tended to his farm and his presumably growing flock of Baptists well and competently, as evidenced by the written comments about his farm by Benjamin Springer and the fact that he was able to purchase land and owned 560 acres, "more or less", of land at one time.

The most direct mention of Abraham Sloot as a lay preacher occurs in *The History of Middlesex County,* by W. A. and C. C. Goodspeed. Here it is indicated that Abraham Sloot was a Baptist preacher at Brick Street School.[16] Unfortunately no date is given. In this location the Westminster

14. Overseer of the Highway, Roadmaster and Pathmaster were all approximations of the same job. The pathmaster acted as a supervisor of the road job while it was being done. He inspected gravel loads, gradings, construction of culverts and all the myriad jobs connected with road building. (His duties have been today taken over generally by the township's foreman.) In the early minutes of the council, there are only a few pathmasters mentioned but as the years progressed and the country opened up and roads became one of the most important duties of township councils, the list of pathmasters lengthens. Eventually, the problem became too great for volunteer supervision.

15. Westminster, *op. cit.,* 5 ff.

16. Goodspeed, *op. cit.,* 568. Brick Street is a popular name for Commissioner's Road, Concession 1, Westminster Township. It is also called in part Highland Road. The present site of Brick Street School is approximately five miles from the original location of Abraham Sloot's home. The present school building is the third brick building within living memory and the schools before that according to tradition were of log construction. Though all these schools have not been on the same exact location it is generally agreed that they have all been in the same general neighbourhood, not more than a few hundred yards, if that, from each other. Sloot lived on the fringe of the Brick Street school neighbourhood, according to our understanding today, but in his day of sparse settlements and necessarily large school areas this might not necessarily have been so. He could easily have been in the midst of the Brick Street School area (S.S. No. 4, Westminster) as it existed in the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Sloot's farm and many of his friends and associates were in this area and it is natural to assume that his children went to school in this area and that he preached there amongst his friends. Another early school (now the Highland Road Baptist Church) was situated about two miles still further east on Commissioner's Road in the part known as Highland Road. Its location, and the fact that it has always been identified (as far as is known) as the Odell School, makes it most unlikely that it could have been Goodspeed's "Brick Street School."

When Goodspeed was gathering information for his history his compilers undoubtedly talked with pioneers who had firsthand knowledge of Abraham Sloot as

Church held services and here Sloot built up a reputation as a preacher and pastor. Here, too, he performed services of an almost official nature, as the following will show:

> In 1823, two Gustin and three Edwards families had moved from the Long Point Loyalist settlement to farms in the southern part of Lobo Township, ten miles south of the Welsh settlement . . . These families were formed into a branch of the Baptist Church of Christ of Westminster on February 11th, 1827, by Elder Simon Mabee and Elder Abram Sloat, pastor of the Westminster church, formerly located near the present Brick Street School. This event took place in the home of Isaiah Gustin, brother-in-law of Mabee.[17]

Further churches were formed following the Rev. William McDermond's visit to Westminster in the spring of 1829. Sloot apparently played his part in this expansion of Baptist congregations by visiting churches and settlements in Lobo and other townships preaching the Word from time to time along with fellow preachers among whom may be noted Vining, Finch, Gaul, Mabee, and Elliott.[18]

In 1832 Sloot was listed in I. M. Allen's Baptist Register[19] as minister of the Baptist Church in Westminster Township. Membership of the Church numbered only 25 people at that time. In 1835 Sloot was listed again by Allen as being a minister in the Western Baptist Association, which included the two churches in London and Westminster, but Allen does not specify which church Sloot was serving at that time. However, from a petition of 1836 it would seem most likely that he was leading the London church (43 members) as well as the Westminster church (26 members).

Sloot's ability as a preacher is not given, but we have records that he performed a considerable number of marriages, which may attest to his personal popularity if not also as a clergyman. Ministers of the Calvinistic Baptist Society, despite the liberalization of the marriage laws in 1831, were refused licenses to celebrate marriages by the magistrates though other Baptist groups were. Goodspeed presents a list of marriages of members of the Calvinistic Baptist Church celebrated by the Rev. Abraham Sloot, who was classed as a regular Baptist minister, between 1832-38,[20] and therefore permitted by law to perform the marriage

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a preacher at Brick Street School. It is possible that Sloot preached in more than one locality using a school, a public building, a home etc. Brick Street School may have been only one of the places in which Sloot spoke, but of sufficiently frequent use to be remembered. It is generally believed that prior to 1852 when they erected a church in the Brick Street School area (which, by the way, is still in use) the Methodists, too, held meetings in the Brick Street School presided over by circuit riders.

17. Rosser, F. T. "First London Welsh Baptist Church (Denfield)" (In Ontario Historical Society, *Papers and Records,* Vol. XXXIII).

18. In this respect these eminent preachers were aided by the lack of communication. Thus in F. T. Rosser's paper, page 106-107, as well as in Goodspeed, page 55, we learn that a Baptist Church was built at Denfield as a result of the poor roads and the difficulty many people in that area encountered in getting to the services at the church in Lobo.

19. Allen, I. M., Editor, *Annual Baptist Register,* Philadelphia, 1833.

20. Goodspeed, *op. cit.,* 55, says Abraham Sloot was "a regular Baptist minister in 1838."

ceremony. There are 77 of these marriages listed with the dates, along with the names of the parties concerned, the township addresses, and in some cases, the witnesses. A dozen townships, all in Middlesex or Elgin counties, are mentioned—Caradoc, Westminster, London, Southwold, Dunwich, Lobo, Dorchester, Williams, Ekfrid, Delaware, Yarmouth and Malahide, while the names of the marriage celebrants,—names like Norton, Griffiths, etc.—provide a good cross-section of the old families of these communities.

In 1836 Abraham Sloot and seven other Baptists of London applied for a grant of land in London for the erection of a church and a burying ground, but the Executive Council replied that the church was too small to receive a grant in the town itself, and suggested that they get a recommendation of approval for such a move from the Court of Quarter Sessions. This would seem to be a natural first step. The documents[21] concerning this matter read as follows:

To His Excellency Sir Francis Bond Head, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic order, and of the Prussion Military order of Merit, Lieut. Governor of The Province of Upper Canada & & &

In Council

May it please your Excellency

Your Petitioners Humbly sheweth, that they are A Religious Body of his Majestys dutiful Subjects of the regular or Calvenist Baptist, Church, residing in the Township of Westminster, London and London Village, having for their Minister Elder Abraham Sloot A brittish born subject and that we transact all our ecleastical business in our own Country and Agreeable thereto at A meeting held at Wm. J. Odells On the thirtieth of January past appointed the following Committee Consisting of Elder A. Sloot, Amos Clark, Leonard Loomis, Edward Teeple, James Stearns, Cande Perkins, John Gillis, and Wm. J. Odell, to draft A Petition Praying that your Excellency may be Graciously Pleased to grant them A Portion of Land for the purpose of building A Meeting house and to inter their dead. May it therefore please your Excellency to grant us such A portion of Land in this Village for that purpose As your Excellency may think proper and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray—

London, Feb. 4th 1836.

Leonard Loomis
John Gillies
Cande Perkins
Edward Teeple

Abraham Sloot
Wm. J. Odell
Amos Clark
Jos. Stearns

House of Assembly
Feb. 7th 1836

Sir

I beg to enclose for His Excellency the Lt. Governor a petition from some of the members of the Baptist Church, in and near the town of London—their society of that neighbourhood numbers about forty persons, who are all very

21. Public Archives of Canada, Upper Canada Land Petitions, 1835 - I & J - Bundle 30.

respectable—and granting their prayer, would be a great benefit to their own Society—and I believe give much satisfaction to the inhabitants generally.

I am Sir
Your obt. humble Servt
Thomas Parke

John Joseph Esq.

Sundry Inhabitants belonging to the Baptist Church residing in the Township of Westminster and London praying for a grant of land.

Govt House 11th March 1836.
Referred to the Honble the Executive Council
By Command
J. Joseph

In Council 19 March 1836

The number of persons composing the denomination of Christians in the Town and Townships within referred to is stated at 40, which number appears to the Council to be too small to authorize the recommendation of a grant of land for the purposes of their community in the Town of London. The Council have besides an objection to the authorizing burying grounds to be established within the limits of Towns. And as the congregation do not all live within the Town there can be no great convenience in having a separate burying ground there.

R. B. Sullivan PC.

Copy of the above sent to T Parke Esqr

In Council 19 March 1836

In addition to the minute of Council made this day. The Council would respectfully suggest that if the Petitioners can obtain a recommendation from the Magistrates in Quarter Sessions of the London District, stating the facts that the society is a regularly formed community of Christians with a pastor properly appointed under the rules of the Church or sect to which they belong. The Council would not object to recommend the grant of a piece of ground sufficient to allow the building of a church meeting house therefore, if it seems on reference to the surveyor generals office that there is vacant ground which may be conveniently spared for that purpose.

R. B. Sullivan
F B H P C

In Council 19 March 1836.

Unfortunately no further details as to whether a petition was made to the magistrates can be located and what recommendation the magistrates made, if any, is unknown. Probably if a petition was made, it was rejected. At any event there is no mention again of Baptist activities in London and vicinity until 1845 when the first London Baptist Church was formed. And at that time meetings were being held in the schoolroom of the Mechanics' Institute.[22]

At least two of Abraham Sloot's three children were boys. In the Ontario Archives there is a letter from Abraham Sloot, dated 11 July,

22. Fox, W. Sherwood, *A Century of Service: A History of the Talbot Street Baptist Church, 1845-1945*, 8-9.

1836 to John Radenhurst, Surveyor-General's office, stating that the Honourable Colonel Talbot "has entered or located Mr. John Sloot for the north hundred acres of Lot 48 in the second Concession of Westminster and Mr. George Sloot for the next." Patents for these lots were issued in the names of John and George W. Sloot, the sons of Abraham Sloot, in 1842 and 1841. Both were farmers and both had been located by Colonel Talbot, having performed their settlement duties and also having given an oath of allegiance before that gentleman.

George and John Sloot were settled on the broken lot 48, second concession, Westminster Township on 100 acres each—George on the middle part and John on the North part of the lot; both had crown grants. George and his wife, Sarah, received their grant on the 8th of February 1841, but sold it to Jessie Wilkins on the 8th of March of the same year for 125 pounds while John and his wife Esther sold their grant to William Adam on the 7th of November, 1842 for 150 pounds. There is no information available as far as can be determined as to why they sold this land or where they went.

George appears also as a witness in at least two marriage ceremonies performed by his father. He married Sarah Best of Westminster Township on the 26th of March, 1836, the service being performed by the Rev. Samuel Baker of the Regular Baptist Church of Malahide. John E. Sloot married Esther Hart of London on the 3rd of July, 1838, the marriage being performed by Abraham Sloot.

In 1836 Sloot sold lot 73 to David M. Rymal, but he appears at the same time to have purchased additional land in lot 75 from Calvin Burtch (100 acres East one-half). In 1847 he sold lot 75 to Charles Fraleigh. In 1851 lot 39 and the West one-half of lot 38 were sold and apparently Sloot moved out of the neighbourhood, since nothing further seems to be known of him. He may have died around this time for there is no mention of him either in Westminster Township or Delaware in the first census of Canada, held in 1851. True, he might have been missed in this tabulation, but from what we know of Abraham Sloot, it seems unlikely that he would have shunned such a public duty as taking part in the census. It must be inferred, therefore, that he died before 1851 or else that he moved a sufficient distance away to be lost and forgotten.

The Baptist denomination still has Sloats (Sloots) among their number, particularly in the West, but no solid link can be established between these and the pioneer Abraham Sloot.

It seems almost anti-climatic that Abraham Sloot should disappear this way, but notwithstanding, we can be impressed by what we know of his life; by his apparent dignity as a settler and a preacher.

Abraham Sloot remains a shadowy figure of which we obtain tantalizing glimpses here and there in various records. A farmer and landowner, a pillar of the Baptist faith in the London district, he was but one of the many hundreds of devoted and worthy, but little-known men

and women to give their lives to bettering the communities and people among whom they live and helping overcome some of the hardships and crudities of the pioneer society. If history is measured solely in terms of 'big name' heroes, then he is unimportant. But if history is the record of society in the process of development then there are no more important people than the Abraham Sloots of this world.

THE ONTARIO PIONEER COMMUNITY—AN OUTDOOR MUSEUM

Plans are progressing for the development of the Pioneer Community at the Homer Watson Memorial Park, north of Doon. The Grand River Conservation Authority has co-operated in the purchase of a house, a barn, and slightly over 55 acres of land, across which a stream meanders, falling almost twelve feet from where it enters to where it leaves the property. Included in the purchase is the site of the Bush Inn, a tavern of the early days. The Huron Road, opened by the Canada Company in 1828 to connect Guelph and Goderich, crossed the Grand River at this point, and there was regular stagecoach service before the coming of the railways. On this land which many hundreds of settlers saw on their trip to their Canadian homes, we plan to create conditions that depict the history of southwestern Ontario.

While woods, hills and a murmuring stream suggest the early days, in the Ontario Pioneer Community they also provide boundaries that can be related to periods in our growth.

Tentative museum plans call for a common, or green, surrounded by the creek and woods. On this we shall recreate "The Priory", the unhewn, rock elm, log house that was erected by the Canada Company in 1827 at a cost of more than £1000 to serve as their first administrative office.

From here, roadways and bridges radiating like the spokes of a wheel will lead to six major areas, viz.:

1. Pennsylvania German—the grounds and buildings will tell the story of very early settlers in Ontario.
2. A show window — designed for travellers on the public highway. There will be a mill pond, a pioneer scene and its reflection in the water.
3. Early pioneer — built in the woods and limited to the time when Ontario was known as Upper Canada, that is, 1840 and earlier.
4. Later pioneer — on open ground, separated from No. 3 by the stream and devoted to the time of Canada West (1840-1867). Much of the Pioneer Village will be developed here.
5. Farm area — separated from No. 4 by a mill race, hillside and woods. It will deal with agriculture from early pioneer times up to the present.

6. Reception area — connected to the Priory by a bridge, and to the parking area by a toll gate. Here, clustered around a court, will be administrative offices, a restaurant specializing in distinctive Waterloo County foods, a lecture room, public rooms, a museum of local history and, in the background, work rooms and storage facilities.

Construction was begun in 1957. A timber frame barn and two sheds are well on their way to completion. All three are being roofed with hand-split cedar shingles, the lumber coming from a barn and other sheds which the Board of the County Home for the Aged generously donated. Visitors can be shown the authentic hewn-timber footbridge across the creek, exactly the same as many of the first bridges that crossed streams where we now have busy highways.

In June, at our barn raising, guests were present from as far away as Ottawa, and even Australia. For the occasion, pike poles were fabricated on the grounds and we plan to retain them as part of the permanent display.

Projects for 1958 include parking lot and roads, a log house and other buildings of interest, fireproof storage and display centre for permanent housing of a wide variety of articles of cultural and historic significance, and the further development of the property for the purpose to which it has been dedicated.

Our first president, Dr. A. E. Broome, who has been forced by illness to withdraw from active participation, maintains his interest and is available for counsel.

Soon we shall be inviting one and all to the Ontario Pioneer Community.

—*Andrew W. Taylor,* Administrator.

A REMINDER

Annual members are reminded that under the system inaugurated during 1956, subscriptions became due at the commencement of the present year for Volume 50 of *Ontario History,* of which this is the first number. The usual individual notices were inadvertently delayed but have now been mailed. We thank those whose subscriptions have already been received and urge all others to send their fees for 1958 as soon as possible to The Secretary-Treasurer.

NOTE ON THE ANNUAL MEETING

It is too soon to report on the programme and other details of this summer's Annual Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society. However the arrangements are progressing satisfactorily and an interesting programme is being prepared for the meetings at Midland, June 12, 13, 14, 1958. Full details will be circulated to the members and will be published in the next issue of *Ontario History.*

SURVEYS OF A WATER ROUTE BETWEEN LAKE SIMCOE AND THE OTTAWA RIVER BY THE ROYAL ENGINEERS, 1819-1827

By James Watson Bain

Of the district lying between the Ottawa River and the east shore of Lake Huron nothing was known until the advent of the French explorers and priests. Champlain, travelling by the Ottawa route to escape attack by the Iroquois, tells of meeting a tribe known as the Nipissings living on the shores of that lake, and the "High Hairs" whom he encountered along the shores of Georgian Bay. After the establishment of the Huron Missions there is a report in the Relations for 1649 "of the missions of the Holy Ghost among the Algonquins the nearest to the Hurons." Another reference states: "The seventh [missionary] church called St. Esprit is comprised of Algonquins who this year [1644-45] together with a number of other nations wintered about twenty five leagues from us on the great Lake of our Hurons". One can only speculate as to the location of St. Esprit but it would seem probable that Parry Sound or thereabouts was intended.

After the downfall of the Hurons in 1649 the Iroquois ranged over all of southern Ontario, the Jesuits reporting that they had found ravaged villages on the shores of Lake Nipissing, and an Ojibway tradition relating a victory over the invaders at Sault Ste. Marie. For any further information resort must be made to tradition. Copway[1] states that forty years had elapsed since the Hurons had been ejected, but later states that this war took place in 1660, or only eleven years after the downfall of Huronia. He goes on:

> The most bloody battles were fought on Lake Simcoe at a place called Rama, at Mud Lake, Pigeon Lake and Rice Lake; the last that was fought took place at the mouth of the River Trent. The first battle between the Ojibways and the eastern Iroquois or Mohawks was fought at a place near where Orillia is now situated, about a quarter of a mile northward. The Mohawks collected in great numbers there and awaited the attack of the western Hurons and Ojibways. They resisted stoutly for three days—at the close of which, tradition informs us, they sued for mercy which was granted and the few survivors were allowed to go to Lake Huron where they remained during the rest of the war.
>
> The second battle of any account was fought at Pigeon Lake where the Iroquois had made a strong fort, remains of which are to be seen at this day [1850]. At this place great numbers of the Ojibways were killed. For a time the result was doubtful but finally the Ojibways took the fort by storm and but few of the Iroquois were spared. The third battle was fought near Mud Lake, about twelve miles north of Peterborough. Not a male person was spared and next day another village that stood on the present site of Peterborough and Smithtown was attacked and an immense number slaughtered.

1. Copway, G. *Traditional History of the Ojibway Nation* (London, 1850), 88.

Another interesting account of the coming of the Ojibways to the Trent Valley area is to be found in the Ontario Historical Society, *Papers and Records,* 1905. Even from these scanty gleanings of tradition we cannot arrive at any definite conclusion regarding the inhabitants of what we now include in the Parry Sound-Muskoka-Haliburton-Algonquin Park area. A very interesting description of the more ancient inhabitants of part at least of the area is given by K. E. Kidd in *The Valley of the Trent,* published by the Champlain Society, Toronto, 1957.

The War of 1812-4 drew forcibly to the attention of the British Government the vulnerability of the line of communication between Montreal and the Great Lakes. Had it been broken by the American army, all the lands to the west of the Ottawa must have inevitably been lost. It is not surprising therefore that as early as 1815 plans were drawn up in London looking towards alternative routes by-passing the St. Lawrence. The exploration and planning of the Rideau Canal followed soon after the termination of hostilities, and construction was carried out as quickly as possible.

In 1819 Lieutenant Catty of the Royal Engineers was instructed to make an exploratory journey from Lake Simcoe to the Ottawa River with the object of ascertaining the feasibility of constructing a canal. The official instructions to Catty have not been found, but a copy of his report has been preserved in the Public Archives of Canada and has recently been printed in *The Valley of the Trent,* pages 142-5. Catty commenced his journey by ascending the Talbot River from Lake Simcoe and portaging into Balsam Lake from which he proceeded by the Gull Lakes chain to Haliburton and thence east to the headwaters of the York River, following this waterway to its junction with the Madawaska. He reported that navigation on the latter was very bad, with a long succession of rapids to be encountered, and concluded that some other communication than by the Madawaska would have to be found. If Catty prepared a map of his journey it has not been found, but it seems probable that he contented himself with rough sketches of his route. In the Surveys Branch, Department of Lands and Forests, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, may be seen an original map by J. G. Chewett, entitled "Sketch showing the route of Lieut. Catty in the year 1818, by Lt. Briscoe in the years 1826 and 1827 and by Lt. Walpole in the year 1827". Catty's route must have been plotted from information which he supplied, and this appears to have consisted of some compass bearings of no great accuracy, accompanied by estimates of the distances traversed which cannot be regarded with much confidence. Since the same route was surveyed carefully by Briscoe and Walpole some years later, nothing more need be said at present regarding Catty's mapping.

This is the first record extant of travel from Lake Simcoe to the Ottawa River, and Catty may be considered as the pioneer in the search for a route by water across a district which was at that time quite unknown

to travellers capable of producing moderately accurate maps or directions. No doubt white trappers were acquainted with the country through which Catty passed, but none so far as we know had drawn even rude maps which might have been used by their successors.

While Catty's report was decidedly unfavourable it is greatly to the credit of the Imperial military advisers that they refused to abandon the hope of finding a route by water between the Ottawa River and Georgian Bay for the safe transport of troops and supplies. The state of the North American provinces from the standpoint of military defence was carefully studied by the Duke of Wellington who was then Master General of His Majesty's Ordnance, and under his direction a military Commission was dispatched to Canada to investigate the situation. This Commission, of which Major-General Sir James Carmichael Smyth was President and Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Hoste and Captain Harris were members, submitted a long report to His Grace, the Duke of Wellington, dated Halifax, 9th Sept., 1825.[2] From this voluminous document which dealt with the provisions for defence ranging from Halifax to Sault Ste. Marie, two extracts are of interest in the present connection:

> That part of the Coast of Lake Huron which belongs to His Majesty from Penetanguishene to the falls of St. Mary communicating with Lake Superior, is a bleak, barren and inhospitable coast entirely uninhabited. . . .
>
> In our Instructions Your Grace alludes to a water communication between Lake Simcoe and the Ottawa. In 1819 an officer of the Engineers, Lieut. Catty, explored this route. From his Report, which we have read, the distance appears to be about 400 miles, 150 only of which can be accounted navigable. The Black River, which is also mentioned by Your Grace, flows into the narrows above Lake Simcoe. It is understood to issue from one of the lakes upon the communication before mentioned. We have however requested of Col. Durnford to cause this matter to be verified as also to have the route, which was merely penetrated by Lieut. Catty to ascertain its practicability, examined with more attention.

Although the directions to the Commission issued by the Duke of Wellington are not available, it is obvious from the Report of the former that the Commissioners were given authority to take such steps as they saw fit to secure information which might be of value in the defence of the country. We find accordingly that they issued the following instructions to the Officer Commanding Royal Engineers in the Canadas:

> Quebec, July 27, 1825
>
> 2nd. His Grace the Master General attaching much value to the practicability of a communication between the Ottawa and Lake Simcoe, it will be necessary that the journey performed by Lieut. Catty in 1819 should again be undertaken and the Officer employed upon it instructed not to hurry himself but to give himself sufficient time to make every observation which may hereafter be of use to the service. It will also

2. The author has in his possession a bound manuscript copy of this report, entitled "North American Provinces, Commissioners Report, 1825" from which the following extract is drawn.

be necessary to ascertain the rise and source of the Black River which has its mouth in the narrows of the Lake Simcoe. If you could employ two officers on this duty the Service would be better done as they could penetrate up each River, the Talbot and the Black River simultaneously. Some intelligent Canadian boatmen reported to us that the Black River falls into those Lakes forming a communication between Lake Simcoe and the Ottawa as explored by Lieut. Catty, and which from the Lay of the Country we are disposed to think is possibly the case. It will be necessary, however, that the course of this River, as already explained, should be verified and reported upon.[3]

It should be recalled that in 1825 nothing whatever was known of the territory lying to the north of the Severn River, Lake Couchiching, Balsam Lake and the other lakes now known as the Kawarthas. Occasional allusions in the reports of the explorers who travelled these lands after 1825 indicate that the officers of the Royal Engineers had made enquiries from Indians and trappers as to the general features of the area, but apparently the answers were vague and of little value. The Black River, which joins the Severn at its exit at the northern end of Lake Couchiching, attracted the attention of the Engineers apparently from an old Indian story that the course of the river was northeast for a long distance and that the stream was of considerable magnitude. Such considerations led no doubt to the recommendations of the Commission that Catty's route should be retraced and the Black River explored.

Orders were accordingly issued to Lieut. W. B. Marlow, R.E., and Lieut. W. M. Smith, Royal Artillery, to explore the Black River and return through the Gull River chain while Lieut. Briscoe, R.E., and Ensign Durnford, R.E., were assigned to verify Lieut. Catty's route.

Marlow's report,[4] dated September 22, 1826, recounts his journey up the Black River to its source, crossing over to Wren Lake and descending the lakes and rivers of the Gull River chain to Balsam Lake. It describes a series of short water journeys, interrupted very frequently by falls and portages, and is monotonous to read. Its conclusion alone is of interest:

Relative to the probability of making a communication to the Ottawa by means of the Black River (which is extremely winding throughout) we do not think it can be so easily accomplished as by means of the Talbot. In the Black River are numerous falls, some of which are of great height and the bed of the river is composed throughout of a red granite, a stone very difficult to work. The Talbot which runs in a much straighter direction, has but few falls and none of any great height. The bed of the river is also composed of a soft Lime Stone. Should it however be thought advisable to endeavor to make the Black River navigable to its source (which from our observations we are led to suppose would be attended with very great difficulty) a communication between its

3. *Ibid.*

4. From photostat copies of the report, secured through courtesy of the Public Records Office, London. In Ordnance Office Miscellanies (W.O. 55), number 863, item 1. The map accompanying this report is item 2.

source and the Talbot by way of the Rice Lakes would readily be effected by a Canal through the morass of three and a half miles in extent into the first Lake we arrived at after leaving the head of the Black River. Crossing this lake the communication might be continued by deepening the rivulet (which is three miles in length) into the Second and Third lake. Through this third lake a canal communication could be made of a mile in length through the deep ravine on the east side which would bring the communication to the Rice Lakes.

In view of this unfavourable conclusion, consideration of a route by the Black River was abandoned, and the only recommendation of subsequent importance was that advocating the construction of a canal between Lake Simcoe and Balsam Lake following the Talbot River which was later carried out and now forms a link in the Trent Valley Canal.

The task of retracing the route followed by Catty in 1819 was assigned to Lieut. Henry Briscoe, R.E., and Ensign Durnford, who left Holland Landing on September 6, 1826 with the intention of carrying out their orders. The difficulty which was encountered in finding a guide (as recounted in the narrative which follows) turned out a very fortunate circumstance, since it led to the exploration of the south branch of the Muskoka River. The report[5] is the first account now available describing the route which follows the Muskoka River leading to the waters near the source of the Madawaska River:

Kingston U.C.
16th Oct. 1826

The Commanding Rl. Engineer
in Upper Canada

Sir,

With reference to my letter to you dated from the West Shore of Lake Simcoe of the 29th August reporting the necessity of my returning to Holland Landing to procure fresh provisions and to one dated from the Landing of the 31st August last, stating that a guide had been procured for the Talbot route; I have now the honor to report, that the Indian alluded to was found, on examination, to be very imperfectly acquainted with the Country through which he had undertaken to guide us & the morning after his arrival deserted; most unfortunately the Indian who accompanied Lieut. Catty in the year 1819 was engaged for Lt. Marlow to explore the Black River & no other Indian could be procured who knew the Talbot route, as will be perceived by the annexed copy of a letter from Mr. Givens of the Indian Dept.

In this predicament I happened to hear of a half Indian an Iroquois from the Lake of the two Mountains who had frequently passed between the Sault du Chat & Lake Simcoe. On interrogating him he was ignorant of the Talbot River but described his route as commencing from the Severn beyond the Black River & spoke in very high terms of a very large Lake & fine river connected by minor Lakes & rivers with the Madawasca; he appeared remarkably intelligent & bore an excellent character with every one who knew him; under these circumstances I thought it most advisable to proceed immediately in exploring his route

5. P.R.O., W.O. 78 / 863, item 5.

as no chance remained of procuring a guide for the Talbot & I beg leave to inclose herewith a report of this expedition which I regret to say was most unsatisfactory.

When we had been out about 20 days & were descending a branch of the Madawasca we met an Indian who had been a month coming from the Chat; he informed us that it would take us three weeks to arrive there by the Madawasca, in consequence of the extreme lowness of the water & as we had then but ten days provision left, owing to the great delay & difficulties we had experienced from the cause stated viz: from the lowness of the water, high water mark averaging from 5 to 6 feet, I determined to pursue the most expeditious route to the Ottawa's taking advantage of a Chain of Lakes connected with a large but very rapid river which brought us out upon the Ottawas, about 9 leagues above a trading post of the Hudsons Bay Company called Ft. Cologne.

I have &c
Signed/ Henry Briscoe Lt. Rl. Engrs.

The report of the survey by Henry Briscoe, dated October 16, 1826, Kingston, U.C.,[6] follows. The information in the squared brackets refers to data secured from modern maps by the writer:

Report of a Survey undertaken in pursuance of the General Orders of 18th and 20th Feb. and 1st July, 1826, to examine the water communication between Lake Simcoe and the River Ottawas.

The party left Holland Landing on the 6th of Sept. and proceeding to the Narrows of Lake Simcoe descended the Severn until within half a mile of the third fall. Here we left the Severn on the 7th Sept. by a small winding Creek [now called Morrison Creek, a short distance above McDonald's rapids] running in about a S.W. direction; its breadth varies between 5 and 20 yards, in the course of half a mile it is obstructed by two small falls of 3 or 4 ft. high; the creek then widens into a Lake about 2½ miles in length and 200 yards wide [Morrison Lake]. We then proceeded up the creek for nearly a mile in the course of which there are 6 falls, one 15 feet high, and the others 6 or 5. The bed of the creek is composed of red granite—the banks generally low, the greatest rise of water about 5 ft., the soil of an indifferent quality. The creek takes its rise from a Lake, which we crossed 5 miles in a N.W. direction and 3 S.E., bounded by high rocky banks [Muldrew Lakes] from this Lake we made a portage of 2½ miles into a large Lake which we crossed N.N.W. 2 miles and N. by E. 7 miles [Lake Muskoka]. We left it by a large river running W.S.W., 50 yards wide at the mouth and 10½ ft. deep. We ascended about 11 miles where it is obstructed by a rapid and shoals and a quarter of a mile further by two contiguous falls, the lower one 80 ft. and the upper one 30 ft. high [the actual distance from the mouth of the Muskoka river to the falls is not over 4 miles]; in the course of the next 12 miles it is impeded by three falls, the first 30 feet [probably Trethway Falls], the second 15 feet [probably Matthias Falls] and the third 5 ft. [not identified] and by upwards of a dozen rapids: in the next 9 miles there are five falls 4 to 5 feet and as many rapids, the river here widens into a fine Lake containing numerous islands [Lake of Bays]. We crossed it in a N.N.E. 9 miles and left it by a continuation of the river we had been ascending which was 20 yards wide at the

6. *Ibid.* The map is item 6.

entrance and about 12 ft. deep [Oxtongue River] the current sluggish; in the course of 8 miles it is obstructed by one fall of 20 ft. and 3 rapids and then exceedingly interrupted by rapids and shoals for 4 miles when it becomes a Lake one mile in length [Oxtongue Lake] 2 miles beyond this Lake there is a fall of 70 feet and ½ mile farther up another fall of 60 feet; above this fall the river is a continued rapid for ½ a mile: the succeeding 6 miles are without any obstruction except a few fallen trees; the breadth of the river is here 12 or 15 yds and is then a succession of rapids and shoals for 1½ mile, after which we crossed a shallow Lake 2 miles in length [South Tea Lake]; from this Lake we crossed 3 more by portages into each, the first 3½ miles [Smoke Lake] and the other two a mile and ½ long; these Lakes are connected with each other by small streams not navigable [Ragged and Big Porcupine (?) Lakes]; the difference of level between the lakes is very considerable. Here we made a portage of 9 miles in the course of which we observed several small lakes and some little streams running in a direction contrary to those we had been ascending; from the end of the portage we crossed two Lakes, half a mile each across by a portage of ¼ mile between them [Kenneth and Head Lakes]. From the last lake the Madawasca or rather I should think a branch of that river takes its rise. [The Indian guide does not appear to have known the two easier routes across the watershed, one by Kootchie, Little Island and Tanamakoon Lakes, the other by Source Lake]. We now began to descend the waters—immediately on entering the river there is a considerable fall, it is about 7 yards wide and not deep enough to float a laden canoe; it runs 2 miles N.E. through a marsh, in the next 9 miles there is one fall of 15 feet and 3 of between 4 and 5 feet; the banks are generally low, but the river enlarges and the banks are higher in the last 3 or 4 miles, which are much obstructed by fallen trees. It was here we met the Indian from whose information I determined to proceed by route of Fort Cologne—this was on the 23rd Sept. The river now enters a Lake which we crossed easterly 2 miles [Lake of Two Rivers] and then entered the river, the next two miles of which are interrupted by a rapid, several shoals and fallen trees. We now left the Madawasca and crossed a chain of Lakes 9 in number, making portages from one to the other for a distance of about 21 miles [Kearney, Pond, Little Rock, Sunday and Sproule Lakes]; the 6th is a very large Lake said to extend to within a short distance of the Ottawas [Lake Opeongo] . . .[7]

We left the 9th Lake by a shallow muddy river with low banks 4 miles long [Crow River] and then crossed two more lakes, the first ½ and the 2nd 1 mile across connected by a river 60 yards wide and ¼ mile long [perhaps on Crow River]. We then descended a small and very shallow river 16 or 17 miles obstructed by 4 or 5 rapids, ½ mile in length [Petawawa River]. We afterwards crossed a Lake in a N.E. direction 8 miles [Lake Traverse] which we left by a river 12 or 15 yards wide, obstructed by 5 falls and rapids in the course of 2½ miles. We

7. It appears probable that the seventh, eighth and ninth lakes are Wright, Bonfield and La Vieille, and it is worthy of note that no reference was made to the last, which is also a large lake. Alexander Sherriff, who passed through this district three years later, in ascending the Petawawa remarks: "Here a small tributary flows in from the south, on which, about twelve miles distant, is a considerable lake called La Vieille, and by these the route strikes off which crosses the sources of the Madawaska." Apparently Briscoe's Indian guide was travelling by a well-known route.

then made a portage of 1½ mile and descended 4 or 5 miles impeded by a fall of 20 feet and several rapids. This river enters a larger one, the course of which is generally E for about 45 miles [Petawawa River] averaging 50 yds. wide; it then empties into the Ottawa 8 leagues above Fort Cologne; it is nearly one entire rapid, its banks are very high and rocky, in many places 60 and 100 feet perpendicular; in the last 20 miles it forms several small lakes. We left it by a portage of 1 mile to avoid the rapids and falls with which it is impeded at its junction with the Ottawas. The average greatest rise of water throughout the route was 5 ft. the land we passed over was generally bad, particularly on the borders of the Lakes and rivers.

The party arrived at Fort Cologne on the 2nd of October.

Signed Henry Briscoe
Lt. Rl. Engineers

Kingston U.C.
16 Oct., 1826.

As there were uncertainties regarding a possible water route from Lake Simcoe to the Ottawa further surveys were carried on in 1827 in compliance with the following orders:

Royal Engineers Office[8]
Kingston, 24th August 1827.

Lieut's Briscoe and Walpole will hold themselves in readiness to proceed on the 27 Instant on the particular Surveys ordered by the Master General of the Ordnance.

Lieut. Briscoe accompanied by Lieut. Greenwood of the Royal Artillery as authorized by the General Order No. 3 of the 26th Ulto. will go over again the Route he went last year except that he will proceed to the Ottawa by the Madawasca instead of the Route by Fort Cologne.

Upon reaching that part of the River that runs into the Madawasca where Captain Catty fell in with it on his route from the Talbot, he will retrace a small portion of Capt. Catty's Route until he reaches the lake at the N.E. Point of which a River is marked on his sketch as branching off and discharging itself into Lake Ontario near Kingston and endeavour to find it out.

Lieut. Walpole accompanied by Mr. Chewit of the Surveyor General's Department, should His Excellency's permission be obtained, will proceed from Lake Simcoe by the Talbot along the Route explored by Capt. Catty until he arrives at the Point of the Lake where the River is marked as branching off towards Kingston and his attention along the whole of this Route will be particularly directed to ascertain whether any River branches off towards Lake Ontario that affords a probable expectation of a Water communication with that Lake.

Lieut's Briscoe and Walpole will endeavour if practicable so to time their movements as to arrive at the Point above mentioned nearly at the same time and meet each other. Should they not immediately discover the said River they will trace in opposite directions to endeavour to find it out, returning in three or four days to the place of their mutual departure.

Lieut. Briscoe will then continue his route to the Ottawa by the Madawasca and Lieut. Walpole should the River be discovered will proceed to trace its course and ascertain the facilities it affords for a

8. P.R.O., W.O. 78 / 864, item 10.

Water Communication between Lake Simcoe and Lake Ontario for which purpose he will minutely report upon the several Rapids and Falls, the Portages, Depth of Water, nature of its Banks, and every particular necessary to form a correct opinion of its practicability.

Should Lieut. Walpole arrive at the place appointed and discover the River previous to meeting with Lieut. Briscoe he will proceed on the Survey of it, leaving some token or memorandum, of his having done so, for the information of that Officer.

Should the River not be discovered Lieut. Walpole will retrace his Route to Kingston by the most expeditious way his guide recommends.

(Sgd.) I. R. Wright, Lt. Col.
Comg. Roy'l Engs. U.C.

Royal Engineer Office[9]
Kingston Upper Canada
13th October 1827

Lt. Colonel Wright
Comr. Rl. Engineers
Upper Canada

Sir

Agreeably to Genl. Orders No. 3 of the 26th of July and in obedience to your order of the 24th Aug., I left this place, accompanied by Lt. Greenwood R.A. to retrace a part of my former route, and proceed to the Ottawa by the River Madawasca, instead of the route by Fort Cologne, and we beg leave to refer you to my former Report upon that part of our route which lies between the third fall on the Severn and the head of the Waters (having nothing additional to communicate upon that part of the journey). On arriving at this point, we entered a small lake from whence the Madawasca takes its source; we proceeded about two miles, when we were obliged to make a portage of a few hundred yards, the river being choked with fallen trees and obstructed by a fall of 6 or 7 feet; reentering the river, we advanced 6 or 7 miles, when we met with a succession of 6 small lakes, but were invariably obliged to make portages from one to the other, the connecting streams being obstructed by rapids and falls. From the 6th lake to the 7th, a distance of about 20 or 25 miles, the navigation of the River is impeded by a succession of strong Rapids and Falls. The last mentioned Lake is 6 miles long which we crossed in a S.E. direction; pursuing the course of the river about 5 miles (the character of which is the same as already described) we arrived at two lakes, one about 4 miles, and the other ½ mile long. After quitting the Lakes, we had to encounter the usual difficulties in the River, making constant portages, the rapids being of a dangerous character; proceeding about 2 or 3 miles, we arrived at a large marsh about 4 miles long, answering to that described by Capt. Catty Rl. Engr. in his report. On leaving the marsh we made a portage, there being a fall of 7 feet in the river; from this point to the Sturgeon Lake (a distance of about 25 miles) we found the River in most cases, a succession of Rapids with numerous falls, which compelled us to make as frequent portages. We crossed the above mentioned Lake by a N.E. course 4 miles. From this Lake to the Ottawa the river is altogether obstructed by dangerous rapids, rendered still more difficult by the unusual lowness of the water, varying between 3 and 4 feet below high water marks. The average breadth of

9. P.R.O., W.O. 78 / 864, item 11. The map is item 12.

the River from Sturgeon Lake to the Ottawa is about 40 yards. With respect to establishing a water communication on the line of the Madawasca, we perfectly agree with Captain Catty in the impracticability thereof and beg leave to add, from our own knowledge of that part of the River unexplored by Captain Catty, that the upper waters present difficulties of a still more decided character.

The Country through which we passed was uniformly, with a very few exceptions, of a sterile nature, the bed of the river, and the banks thereof, which were generally steep, being one continued line of Granite, to within a few miles of the Ottawa.

We have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servts.
Sgd. Henry Briscoe Lt. Rl. Engrs.
W. Greenwood Lt. Rl. Arty.

Royal Engineer Office[10]
York U.C. 12th Nov. 1827.

Sir,

Herewith I have the honor to transmit you a report and sketches of the route I was directed by you to proceed upon in August last.

I have already informed you I discovered no River that flowed in the *direction* of *Kingston;* and that prior to my leaving Lake Simcoe I learnt from the Indian who went with Capt. Catty (but from illness was unable to go with me) that he knew of none that had its rise in any of the Lakes I was to pass through.

I was fortunate in procuring the Guide Lt. Marlow had last year, of whom that officer spoke so highly.

I also found him extremely intelligent, and perfectly conversant with the waters he guided me through.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient & humble
Servant
(Sgt) J. Walpole
Lieut. Royl. Engrs.

A report of the route as far as the Madawaska river explored by Captn. Catty in 1819 and Lt. Walpole in 1827.

Soon after entering the Talbot River, in consequence of the very great quantity of drift-wood that impedes its navigation, a Portage of 7¼ Miles is made over very flat and low lands. The River then becomes navigable for four or five miles, when a small Rapids obliged us to make a short portage. With the exception of two Shallows, and where the River loses itself under a bed of Lime Stone, we were enabled to proceed without interruption till we left the River to pass over to Balsam Lake. It will be seen by the Sketch, in this Portage two elbows of the River are crossed. The Land between Balsam Lake and the River Talbot forms itself into a ridge, and is rather high. It was by no means apparent to us, that the level of Balsam Lake is above that of the River, unless it be so, some difficulty will be encountered in getting a water communica-

10. P.R.O., W.O. 55 / 864, item 14. Maps to illustrate this report are found as item 15 (small scale) and item 16 (large scale).

tion through that part of the Country, for it would be injudicious to direct the water of the River Talbot, as it is near the Source, but a small Stream. After leaving Balsam Lake we ascended a fine stream; a short distance up, there are four Rapids, easy of ascent—above the Rapids the River expands into a Lake, called the Lac des Isles, the Lake is bounded by Rocks of a very hard description. It may here be observed that after passing the Rapids below the Lac des Isles, we remarked no more Lime Stone through the Route until we arrived at the mouth of the Madawaska.

From the Lake we again entered the River and soon arrived at the foot of a small Rapid, above which there are two others at short distances from each other.

They are severally 12, 8 & 16 feet high, but with facility might be rendered passable for Batteaux. From there the River continues broad and navigable for a few miles, when a Portage of 75 yards is made to avoid a small fall, called Moore's fall, here the operation of damming up one of the Channels of the Fall might be easily performed. Having passed these Falls, we entered upon a fine Lake six miles long, called Gull Lake, but with extremely sterile and barren shores.

This Lake is left by a sinuous but navigable stream, flowing through a flat Country. After ascending it for about 6 miles, we arrived at the foot of a strong rapid. There a portage is made over some very broken and high Land. It will seem this Portage no longer follows the course of the River we ascended, but brought us to the side of a small Creek. The Creek & the small Lake from which it flows, can not be less than 200 feet above the level of the River, at where we commenced the Portage. The Creek takes a circuitous Route and falls into the River below the Portage. Though practicable, to form a communication between the small Lake and the River the great difference of level would render it a work of great labour and expence.

From the small Lake there is a Portage of a Quarter of a mile to another Lake. The two Lakes are totally unconnected, & the latter is about 20 feet below the small one. The Land between them is not very favorable for making a communication, and it may be a question, whether by doing so, it would be considered advisable to open another outlet to the small Lake.

The next Lake is nearly twelve miles long, its shores are much indented, varying from 1000 yards in breadth to small Straits from 30 to 50 feet wide. This Lake gives rise to a River called Burnt River, which discharges itself near Balsam Lake.

Leaving the long lake, we passed up a narrow and sluggish Stream at the extremity of which there is a small lake; from the lake we again got into a small Stream; the navigation soon became intercepted, by drift wood and shoal water but a portage of 7/8 mile brought us to where the Stream is again navigable.

At the distance of about a mile there are some strong rapids and falls, of 50 feet descent. A portage of 684 yards avoids them. It was observed the banks of the river here are very unfavorable for making a Cut, being high and rocky.

We now passed without interruption to the lake, called Porcupine Lake, extending several miles to the North. We passed near the Southern extremity of it, and made a portage of one mile to a small one. These two lakes are on the same level, and the ground is favorable for con-

necting them. From the small Lake there is a portage of ½ mile to Owl Lake. Though the portage is made over high ground, it appeared to the southward, there would be no difficulty in making a communication between the Lakes; from the small Lake and Owl there are small Streams flowing in the direction of the waters below Balsam Lake.

At the extremity of Owl Lake there is a small Stream rising in a boggy and marshy Lake, from which we passed over a portage of ¾ mile to another of similar description. In the Spring, the guide informed us, the two are connected by the low and swampy land. There would therefore be no difficulty in securing a communication at all times, were a cut deep enough from one to the other to be made; for it will have been observed that the waters from these two Lakes flow in opposite directions. A portage of 220 yards and another of 968 yards were made to arrive at the Lake marked (a). Communications might be easily made where the Portages are, for there are but small differences of Level between the Lakes and the small connecting Streams would require little else than damming up.

From the Lake marked (a) it is necessary to make two very small portages with a pond intervening to get upon the uppermost Lake (b) which is described in Capt. Catty's Sketch as having a River flowing from it, and discharging itself near Kingston. Nothing but a very little shallow stream runs from it; which was ascertained to make a winding course for about 1 mile and a half and fall into the Lake (a).

From the Lower Lake there is however a small river that empties itself into the waters of the Trent near Balsam Lake, as I was assured by the Guide. This river is I have every reason to suppose the same as that alluded to in Capt. Catty's Sketch, though inaccurately described as having its source in the uppermost Lake. It was never meant to be inferred (so it is conceived and the observation is made with due deference) that this River discharged itself near Kingston without first forming a junction with the waters of the Trent, which certainly may be said to discharge itself near Kingston for, by referring to the Sketch B drawn to a smaller scale it will be seen that the courses of the several rivers that flow into the Trent between its source and Kingston forbid the inference.

The Trent having been frequently explored and perfectly well known I did not think it my duty to pass over to it. I therefore proceeded on Captain Catty's route.

To pass the high Lands dividing the waters that fall into Lake Ontario from there falling into the Ottawa a portage of little more than 2¼ miles was made.

At the extremity of the portage there is a small Lake. From the lands being very high and extremely broken it is difficult to pronounce which of the Lakes is situated on the higher level. The land appeared to be generally of so unfavorable a nature that the operation of forming a Canal between them would be one of extreme labour.

From the small Lake a portage of 1 1/10 mile was made to another; the one described in Captain Catty's report as being extremely shallow. The shallow Lake is certainly not less than 200 feet below the small one. The stream from the latter has at first a very precipitous fall. Here the work of making Locks etc. from the great difference of level would also be laborious and expensive.

We left the shallow Lake of the Shanwashkong river, meaning marshy; this we descended without interruption for many miles. We passed the Lake noticed by Capt. Catty as being shallow as well as those that are deeper and bounded by rocky shores. After passing the Lakes we came to a falls of about 35 feet and then two rapids at short distances of 25 and 7 feet fall — for several miles rapids do not occur and the navigation is only interrupted by drift wood. The next rapid we arrived at had about 40 feet fall and at the interval of a few miles at another about 12 feet. The banks of the river at all these rapids viz. those that were passed after the fall of 35 feet, are not very high, averaging about 10 feet high. Therefore the operation of forming cuts etc. by the sides of the rapids would not exceed the ordinary labour and expense in works of the kind. Soon after we came to the bend in the River, where there are several falls and rapids, the portage is a mile, and the circuit that the river takes is considerably greater. The difference of levels at the extremities of the portage cannot be less than 200 feet, the ground here is unusually high compared with what we had seen it at the banks of this river, the river is navigable from these rapids and falls with the exception of two small rapids till it meets the Madawaska river flowing for the distance of two or three miles through a large marshy Lake (Shanwashkong Lake) bounded by high and sterile lands as mentioned by Captain Catty.

It was at the junction of Shanwashkong River with the Madawaska that Lieut. Briscoe and his party came upon the route, that Officer having received Orders to report upon this part of it. I descended the River and in obedience to Orders proceeded to Kingston without loss of time.

As far as my observations went I found the River as Capt. Catty had described, an almost uninterrupted succession of rapids.

There can be but one opinion respecting the very great difficulty there would be in overcoming the obstacles that at present oppose the navigation of it — the great height to which the waters of this River rise in the Spring — observable by the timber that has floated and been deposited on its banks, and the extraordinary rapidity with which it descends into the Ottawa are circumstances which would render the operation, if not infeasible, certainly enormously expensive and laborious.

In the former part of my report I have endeavoured to shew what difficulties separately exist to forming a water communication wherever it is at present intercepted, thereby enabling an opinion to be formed of this route from Lake Simcoe to the Ottawa, that though it comprises a large quantity of navigable water, possesses some obstacles that could only be overcome by more than an ordinary degree of labour and expense.

It may be added that the Country through which we passed unusually bore a most barren and cheerless aspect.

(Sd.) J. Walpole
Lt. Royl. Engrs.

York 12th Nov. 1827.

On the heels of these explorations by members of the British forces in Canada came still another by Charles Sherriff of Quebec City in 1829, an expedition described in considerable detail in *Algonquin Story* by A. Saunders, published by the Department of Lands and Forests, Province

of Ontario."[11] Sherriff's full account, published in 1831, may be seen in Volume 2 of the Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, where it occupies 66 pages. Soon afterwards these pioneer explorers of the region between Lake Simcoe and the Ottawa were succeeded by those forerunners of settlement, the lumbermen.

11. Toronto, n.d. Pages 15-21.

A NOTE ON NEW OSWEGATCHIE

Your correspondent Mr. John S. Moir in "An Early Town Meeting" (*Ontario History,* Volume 49, Number 4, Autumn 1957, page 198) is mistaken in assuming that the village of Maitland, Ontario, was formerly called "New Oswegatchie." Until Ziba M. Phillips, an early landowner of the site of the village, named it after Sir Peregrine Maitland, then lieutenant-governor, this location was known as Pointe-au-Baril, and was never, as a signboard in the village states, called "New Oswegatchie" by the French. In fact the name Oswegatchie was a shibboleth to the French as they called the river of that name, entering the St. Lawrence at the present-day Ogdensburg, N.Y., the "Soegatzi" or "Chouegatzi," just as they called Oswego "Chouegan".

The name "New Oswegatchie" was given to a masonic lodge that held a meeting at Thomas Sherwood's home in Elizabethtown in 1787 under a warrant of "Oswegatchie Lodge" N.Y., subsequent meetings being held in and around Maitland. The minute book of this new lodge, "New Oswegatchi" still exists, and it is probable that men riding to Maitland to attend meetings said they were going to New Oswegatchie. Ogdensburg or Oswegatchie being the administrative centre for all the settlement on both shores of the St. Lawrence until the British formally withdrew under Jay's Treaty, the area from Prescott to Brockville was known as the "Oswegatchie Settlement" and when the Rev. John Stuart recorded that he had baptised the children of Ensgin Bewell (sic) and Abel Fulford at Oswegatchie[1] on the 9th and 11th of March 1809, he was referring to Brockville, while an entry that he baptised the children of Elija Bottom on the 12th shows he had reached Johnstown which was Lieut. Bottom's home.

However the town meeting referred to by Mr. Moir was probably held at Ogdensburg as the south shore had been divided into ten townships in 1785[2] and the north shore not till some years later. The Americans still use the word "town" to refer to a township as they have apparently no municipalities other than townships, villages and cities. One friend assures me we are quite wrong in calling a municipality of 10,000 a town!

—*Frederick C. Curry.*

1. *Parish Register of Kingston,* by Young, pages 127 and 129.
2. Garand's *History of Ogdensburg*, 162.

BOOK NOTES

Bissell, Claude T., editor. *Our Living Heritage.* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 1957. Pp. x, 149. $3.50). Provocation, brilliant studies of seven Canadians who have achieved eminence in politics and literature. The subjects include Edward Blake (by Frank H. Underhill), Goldwin Smith (by Malcolm Ross), Sir John Macdonald (by Donald G. Creighton), Archibald Lampman (by Munro Beatty) and Stephen Leacock (by Robertson Davies).

Beattie, Jessie L. *Black Moses: The Real Uncle Tom.* (Toronto: Ryerson Press. Pp. xiii, 215, illus. $4.50). A biography in story form of Josiah Henson, the famous slave who fled to Canada in 1830, settled at Dresden, and devoted his life to improving the material and spiritual welfare of his people.

Bendiner, Robert. Toronto Shows the Way (*Reporter,* XVI (7), April 4, 1957, 25-30). The story of Metropolitan Toronto, "North America's first metropolitan super-government", and of its attempt to solve the complex problems facing thirteen municipalities.

Boland, Francis. Father Soulerin, C.S.B., Founder and Administrator (Canadian Catholic Historical Association, *Report, 1956,* 13-27). One of five Basilian priests brought from France to Toronto in 1852, Father Soulerin founded and directed St. Michael's College, whose beginnings are described in this study.

British American Banknote Company Limited. *Ninety Years of Security Printing: The Story of the British American Bank Note Company Limited, 1866-1956.* (Ottawa: The Company, 975 Gladstone Avenue. 1956. Pp. 25, illus.).

Campbell, Marjorie Wilkins. *The North West Company.* (Toronto: The Macmillan Company of Canada Limited. 1957. Pp. xvi, 295. $5.00). A history of the far-ranging Montreal-based fur trading concern of the years 1779 to 1821, whose trading and transportation operations included the Ottawa and Great Lake sectors of Upper Canada.

Campbell, Robert M. *Whee! The People.* (Toronto: Thomas Nelson and Sons (Canada) Limited. 1957. Pp. vi, 75, illus. $1.50). A Toronto advertising executive's experiences in contesting the seat of York West as a Liberal candidate in the federal general election of 1953 and a 1954 byelection.

Canada. Public Archives. *Sixteenth-Century Maps Relating to Canada: A Check List and Bibliography.* (Ottawa: The Queen's Printer. 1956. Pp. xxvi, 283, maps. $2.50).

Careless, J. M. S. The Political Ideas of George Brown (*Canadian Forum,* XXXVI (433), February 1957, 247-50). The career and ideas of the founder of the Toronto *Globe,* whose beliefs in laissez-faire economics, the separation of Church and State, 'rep by pop', and British parliamentary institutions shaped liberal thought in the Canada of a century ago.

Carpenter, Edmund. Serpent on the Hill--the Story of a Sacred Grove (*Canadian Geographical Journal,* LVI (1), January 1958, 2-15). The story of the Serpent Mound, Rice Lake.

Carrière, Gaston. Les Missions Catholiques dans l'Est du Canada et l'Honorable Compagnie de la Baie d'Hudson (1844-1900) [continued] (*Revue de l'Université d'Ottawa,* XXVII (2), Avril-Juin 1957, 220-66). The activities of Catholic missionaries at Moose Factory and Fort

Albany on James Bay, from the beginnings of labours in the district in 1848.

Comfort, Charles. Emanuel Otto Hahn, 1881-1957 (*Canadian Art,* XIV (4), Summer 1957, 164-5). A biographical sketch and memorial tribute to the sculptor, designer of coins and postage stamps, and long-time teacher at the Ontario College of Art.

Community Planning Association of Canada. *Urban Renewal: A Study of the City of Toronto, 1956.* (Ottawa: The Association, 77 MacLaren Street. 1957. Pp. 20. 50c). The changing face of Toronto, and trends in its present and prospective development.

Corey, Albert B. *Canadian-American Relations along the Detroit River.* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, for the Detroit Historical Society. 1957. Pp. x, 24. $1.00). The Cass Lecture.

Creighton, Donald Grant. *Harold Adams Innis: Portrait of a Scholar.* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 1957. Pp. 144, illus. $3.00). The life and work of the noted economic historian whose numerous reviews, articles, essays and books have powerfully influenced Canadian studies. For many years a member of the faculty of the University of Toronto, Dr. Innis died in 1952 at the age of 58.

Currie, Albert W. *The Grand Trunk Railway of Canada.* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 1957. Pp. x, 556, map. $8.50). A scholarly, thorough study of the Grand Trunk Railway system and of its larger subsidiaries—the Great Western, Northern and Midland lines—which supplied southwestern Ontario with most of its railway mileage. From its inception in 1850 to its absorption into the Canadian National Railways system.

Davidson, T. Arthur. *Owen Sound 1857-1957.* (n.p. [1957]. Pp. 64, illus. 25c). The Owen Sound centennial souvenir booklet.

Eggleston, Wilfrid. *The Frontier and Canadian Letters.* (Toronto: Ryerson Press. 1957. Pp. ix, 164. $3.75). The influence of Canada's frontier environment upon the literary production of its residents, with a chapter devoted to The Frontier Process in Upper Canada.

Ellis, J. S. Trail of the Cedar Rails (*Sylva,* XIII (4), July-August 1957, 15-18). Cedar logs for rail fences were only one of many uses which the pioneer derived from the forests of southern Ontario.

Fulford, Robert. Artists in Boom-town: Young Painters of Toronto (*Canadian Art,* XIV (2), Winter 1957, 68-71).

Gressley, Gene M. Lord Selkirk and the Canadian Courts (*North Dakota History,* XXIV (2), April 1957, 89-105). Lord Selkirk's efforts to protect his colony at Red River against the North West Company ushered in a lengthy series of difficult and costly lawsuits, some of which were tried at Sandwich and York in Upper Canada in 1818.

Guillet, Edwin C. *Pioneer Inns and Taverns, Volumes III and IV in One: A Survey of Two Centuries of Travel Books.* (Toronto: Ontario Publishing Company, Limited. 1958. Pp. 504, 432 illus., 4 maps. $16.50). Volume III deals with "Quebec to Detroit, with a detailed coverage of the Province of Ontario", Volume IV "Continuing the detailed coverage of Ontario, with a concluding estimate of the position of the innkeeper in community life." Regions treated are the upper St. Lawrence, Kingston, the Old Danforth and Kingston Roads, Old Dundas Street, the Niagara region, Long Point and the Talbot district, the Huron Tract and the Queen's Bush, and northward to the Trent Lakes.

Gundy, H. Pearson. A Queen's Medical Student in the Army of the Potomac, 1863-4. (*Douglas Library Notes,* VI (3), December 1957, [3-8]). In March 1863 Francis Moses Wafer interrupted his studies to become an Assistant Surgeon with the Union forces in the American Civil War, intending to return to university in the fall. Instead he only returned to Queen's in the autumn of 1865 to graduate an M.D. in 1867. His 122-page diary, narrating his activities during 1863 and 1864 (including eyewitness accounts of Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness and Spotsylvania), was presented to the Douglas Library, Queen's University, by Mrs. J. Clunan of Syracuse, N.Y.

Haig, Alistair P. Henry Frost, Pioneer (1816-1851). (*Canadian Music Journal,* II (2), 35-40). Some time before vocal music became officially part of the public elementary school programme in 1846, a young schoolteacher of King Township, York County, compiled and made several copies of a manual to instruct his pupils and others in the rudiments of music.

Hardy, F. A. The Library of Parliament (*Dalhousie Review,* XXXVII (2), Summer 1957, 175-80). The history of the Parliamentary Library which was built between 1872 and 1876, survived the fire of 1916 only to fall victim to fire and water damage in 1952, and since then has been restored to its original beauty.

Herridge, A. J. Famous Fur-Trading Route (*Sylva,* XIII (6), Nov.-Dec. 1957, 13-18). History and description of the ancient route from Lake Superior to James Bay, via the Michipicoten, Missinaibi and Moose Rivers.

Hutchison, Bruce. *Canada, Tomorrow's Giant.* (Toronto: Longman's Green and Company. 1957. Pp. xii, 326, vii, illus. $4.95). Chapter VII ("The Homeland"), VIII ("The Cliff") and IX ("The Shield") deal with Ontario's past, present and future.

Jackson, A. Y. Box-Car Days in Algoma, 1919-20 (*Canadian Art,* XIV (4), Summer 1957, 136-41). Recollections of an extended sketching and camping trip, utilizing a box-car of the Algoma Central Railway for a studio and base. Jackson was accompanied by Lawren Harris, J. E. H. MacDonald and Frank Johnston.

Johnson, Henry. St. John's Church, Woodhouse (*Western Ontario Historical Notes,* XIV (1), December 1957, 11-20). An Anglican congregation was organized at Turkey Point in 1803, but it was 1823 before a church could be built at Woodhouse to serve the surrounding district, and 1827 before a resident minister was secured.

Kingston Historical Society. *Historic Kingston, Number 5.* (Kingston: The Society, 1956. Pp. 51). Includes the following articles: "The Macaulay Family of Kingston" by Margaret Angus (pages 3-12); "The Civil Service when Kingston was the Capital of Canada" by J. E. Hodgetts (pages 13-24); "Early Schools in Kingston" by F. P. Smith (pages 25-29); "A Clash in St. Paul's Churchyard" by R. A. Preston (pages 30-44); and three documents.

Klinck, Carl F., ed. *Major Richardson's Kensington Gardens in 1830.* (Toronto: The Bibliographical Society of Canada. 1957. Pp. xiii, 32). The poem, "A Satirical Trifle by the Author of Ecarté" reproduces the original printed text, located by Dr. Klinck in the British Museum. The introduction was first published in this journal, XLVIII (3), Summer 1956, 101-7.

Lamb, R. E., C.S.B. *Thunder in the North: Conflict over the Riel Risings 1870, 1885.* (New York: Pageant Press, Inc. 1957. Pp. xiii, 354. $5.75). A study primarily devoted to the impacts of the Red River Insurrection and the Northwest Rebellion and their related issues upon the peoples and governments of Ontario and Quebec, and upon federal government and politics. The author concludes that in general Ontario was on weak ground in its attitude towards the episode of 1869-70, and Quebec (with some extenuation) in its reaction to that of 1885.

Landon, Fred. The Loss of the Bannockburn (*Inland Seas*, XIII (4), Winter 1957, 303-5). The steamer, a grain carrier on the Great Lake route from Port Arthur to Midland, was last seen during a storm on November 21, 1902, northeast of Keweenaw Point, Lake Superior.

LeBourdais, D. M. *Metals and Men: The Story of Canadian Mining.* (Toronto: Hollinger House. 1957. Pp. 416, illus. and maps. $8.50). The discovery and development of Canada's mines over the past century, from Cariboo to Elliot Lake. Chapters particularly concerned with the Ontario scene are entitled Sudbury Basin, Cobalt, Porcupine, Kirkland Lake, Haileybury Heritage, Falconbridge, Iron Ore, and Uranium.

Lee, Thomas E. The Antiquity of the Sheguiandah Site (*The Canadian Field-Naturalist,* LXXI (3), July-September 1957, 117-37). A report on archaeological work and findings at the Sheguiandah site, a 26-acre hilltop near the northeastern corner of Manitoulin Island, discovered in 1951 by the writer. At least five occupational levels were noted, the earliest of which on geological evidence might possibly date to 30,000 years ago. See also J. T. Sanford, "Geological Observations at the Sheguiandah Site" in the same issue, pages 138-48.

Lefolii, Ken. The Streets of Canada: Spadina (*Maclean's,* LXX (14), July 6, 1957, 19-23, 33-8). Toronto's lower Spadina Avenue has long been one of Canada's most cosmopolitan sections.

Linell, Eric A. The Academy of Medicine of Toronto, 1907-1957 (*The Canadian Medical Association Journal,* LXXVI (1957), 437-9).

Macbeth, Madge. *Boulevard Career.* (Toronto: Kingswood House. 1957. Pp. x, 230. $3.50). Autobiographical sketches, embracing childhood in the southern United States; education at Hellmuth College, London; marriage and residence in Detroit; and recollections of Ottawa society since the 1890's and of a busy career of travel and authorship.

Mack, Hazel L. *Historical Highlights of Wellington County, Series No. 2.* (Rockwood, Ontario: The Author, R.R. 5. 1956. Pp. 32, illus.). Stories of Guelph, Rockwood, Arkell and Ennotville.

Mason, Douglas H C. *Muskoka: The First Islanders.* (Bracebridge: Herald-Gazette Press. 1957. Pp. ii, 30. $1.00). The exploration and development of the Muskoka Lakes sector, in particular the activities of a group of young vacationers who formed a club and carried out annual expeditions in the area between 1860 and 1864.

Maxwell, C. Dean. *The First One Hundred Years, A History of Wilson Lodge, A.F. & A.M., No. 86, Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, 1857-1957.* (Toronto: The author. 1957. Pp. vii, 63, illus.). Founded November 27, 1857 at the Masonic Temple, Toronto, as Lodge No. 48.

McCrea, Frances Morden. *History in Wood: The McCrea Models.* (Toronto: The Author. Copies may be purchased at the Main Desk, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. Pp. viii, 63). Photographs and descriptions of models of pioneer life in Ontario constructed by the late John Mc-

Neely McCrea between 1934 and 1957. Now housed in the Royal Ontario Museum, the models are regularly used for lessons to touring groups of school children.

McLaughlin, Lorrie. A Corner of Canada's Past (*Echoes,* No. 227, Summer 1957, 8). Butler's Burying Ground, on the outskirts of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Monaghan, Arthur P. Catholicism in the Hamilton Area Before the Establishment of the Diocese in 1856 (Canadian Catholic Historical Association, *Report, 1956,* 29-39). By 1856 Catholic congregations and churches in the Hamilton district were in existence at Dundas (before 1828), Hamilton, Guelph and in Waterloo County at Wilmot and St. Clement's.

Musham, H. A. Early Great Lake Steamboats: The First Propellers, 1841-1845 (*American Neptune,* XVII (2), April 1957, 89-104). The introduction of the Ericsson or screw-propellor on the *Vandalia* (built at Oswego in 1841) enabled the new, more slender steamships to utilize the locks of the early Welland Canal and for the first time permitted direct passage by steamboat between Lake Ontario and the upper Great Lakes via the canal.

Needler, George Henry. *Louis Riel, The Rebellion of 1885.* (Toronto: Burns and MacEachern. 1957. Pp. iv, 81, illus. $3.00). Memories of the Northwest Rebellion by a youthful Canadian militiaman and University of Toronto student who participated in the campaign of 1885. With a few verses and a letter written by Riel at Batoche.

Nelligan, Francis J. The Visit of Father Allouez to Lake Nipigon in 1667 (Canadian Catholic Historical Association, *Report, 1956,* 41-52). The Jesuit missionary Father Claude Allouez spent the years 1665-9 in the Lake Superior country where he established a mission for Hurons and Ottawas at Chequamegon Bay (now Wisconsin) and in 1667 journeyed to Lake Nipigon to celebrate Mass among the Nipissings.

Neumann, Klaus E. The Tailors Who've Dressed All Our 13 PMs (*Maclean's,* LXX (23), Nov. 9, 1957, 22-3, 72, 74-6). The firm of Geo. E. Preston and Sons, Limited, of Rideau Street, Ottawa, founded 1870, has numbered among its clients every prime minister from Sir John Macdonald to John Diefenbaker.

Ontario, Province of. The Department of Planning and Development. *Credit Valley Conservation Report, 1957, Summary.* (Toronto: Queen's Printer. 1957. Pp. 139, illus. and map). A study of the Credit River drainage basin from the standpoints of the region's history, land, forest, water, wildlife and recreation. The historical survey, from the Mississaugas to around 1900, deals comprehensively with pioneer roads and inns, the purchases of 1805 and 1818, surveys, early land grants, the influx of settlement after 1818, the 1837 Rebellion, industries, transportation, hydro-electric power, and urban development.

Ontario, Province of. Department of Planning and Development. *Otter Valley Conservation Report, 1957.* (Toronto: Queen's Printer. 1957. n.p., mimeo, illus., maps. Limited edition, not for sale.) Part I, History, comprising 127 pages, deals with Indians and French settlements, the growth and development of a dozen communities, mills, churches, transportation facilities. The Otter Creek, which flows into Lake Erie at Port Burwell, drains some 316 square miles in Norfolk, Oxford, Brant, Elgin and Middlesex counties.

Ontario, Province of. Department of Planning and Development. *Napanee Valley Conservation Report 1957.* (Toronto: Queen's Printer. n.p.,

Reed, T. A. The Observatory at Toronto, 1840-1908 (*Canadian Geographical Journal,* LV (6), December 1957, 234-43). In 1840 a magnetic observatory was established by the British government at Toronto which was under the charge of Capt. J. H. Lefroy between 1842 and 1853. After the Province of Canada took over the observatory (1853) it became the centre of Canada's meteorological service under Professor G. T. Kingston, its Director from 1855 to 1880.

Renison, Robert John. *One Day at a Time.* (Toronto: Kingswood House. 1957. Pp. xi, 322, illus. $5.00). The autobiography of the late Anglican Archbishop of Moosonee and Metropolitan of Ontario who retired in 1954. The son of a missionary, he began life in Canada at Lake Nipigon as a child of five, inaugurating a career filled with service to the inhabitants of Canada's northland from Hudson Bay to Peace River and Aklavik. His career also included ministries at Hamilton, Vancouver and Toronto, and a period as chaplain of the R.C.A.F.

Rhodes Avenue United Church. *Rhodes Avenue United Church: Fifty Years of Blessing and Christian Witness.* (Toronto: The Church, 1470 Gerrard St. East. 1956. n.p.). The history of the church, established by the Toronto Presbytery, The Presbyterian Church of Canada, on Gerrard Street East.

Ridley, Frank. Cultural Contacts of Iroquoian and Plains (*Pennsylvania Archaeologist Bulletin,* XXVII (1), June 1957). A report on pottery and other finds in the course of archaeological investigations at Michipicoten, Lake Superior.

Ritchie, M. K., and C. A Laker's Log (*American Neptune,* XVII (3), July 1957, 203-11). Extracts from the letters of Midshipman (later Lieutenant) Frederick J. Johnston who served with Sir James Yeo in the naval campaigns on Lake Ontario in 1813 and 1814.

Rosser, Fred T. The First Twenty Years in the History of the Victoria Baptist Church (*Western Ontario Historical Notes,* XIV (1), December 1957, 3-10). Through the labours of a Long Point settler, Rev. Titus Finch, and missionaries Lemuel Covell and Obed Warren, a Baptist church was organized at Charlotteville, Norfolk County, in 1803.

Saunders, Robert. When Newfoundland Helped Save Canada (*Newfoundland Quarterly,* LVI (2), June 1957, 15-8, 36). The Royal Newfoundland Regiment's services during the War of 1812.

Saywell, John T. *The Office of Lieutenant-Governor: A Study in Canadian Government and Politics.* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press. 1957. Pp. xii, 302, $5.50). A comprehensive, general study with frequent references to Ontario's lieutenant-governors, their functions and relationships.

Scarrow, Howard A. Civic Service Commissions in the Canadian Provinces (*Journal of Politics,* XIX (2), May 1957, 240-61). Examines the development of Ontario's civil service commission along with those of the other provinces.

Shaw, Bertha M.C. *Laughter and Tears: Memories between the Limestone Hills and the Blue Georgian Bay, Ontario.* (New York: Exposition Press Incorporated. 1957. Pp. 183. $3.00). Life in and around Owen Sound—personal and family recollections ranging across the century since grandfather Shaw settled in Keppel Township.

Sifton, Clifford. *The Sifton Family Record.* (Toronto: The Author, Room 1110, 320 Bay Street. 1956. Pp. 136, illus. $5.00). A genealogical study of the descendants of Charles and Rebecca Sifton who emigrated from Ireland to London Township in 1819.

mimeo., illus., maps. Limited edition, not for sale). The 60-page section on History by R. M. Lewis deals with Indians and French, Loyalists, and the growth of Napanee, Newburgh and other settlements. The Napanee River watershed comprises 315 square miles in the counties of Frontenac and Lennox and Addington.

Otterville-South Norwich Sesquicentennial 1807-1957. (No publisher. [1957]. Pp. ii, 41, illus.). A history of the South Norwich township and the communities of Otterville, Summerville, Cornell, Roch's Mills, Milldale, Hawtry, Springford; also their industries, commercial enterprises, churches and schools. Surveyed in 1799, the district was first occupied for settlement in 1807.

Panabaker, Frank. *Reflected Lights.* (Toronto: Ryerson Press. 1957. Pp. xvi, 159, illus. $5.00). The autobiography of the Canadian painter, including stories of a boyhood at Hespeler and vacations along Georgian Bay, interspersed among travels across the continent.

Pease, William H., and Jane H. Opposition to the Founding of the Elgin Settlement (*Canadian Historical Review,* XXXVIII (3), September 1957, 202-18). In 1849 Rev. William King organized the Elgin Settlement in Raleigh Township to resettle fugitive slaves under the auspices of the Free Presbyterian Church. The project aroused some opposition among Kent County residents who found a leader and spokesman in Edwin Larwell, M.P. for Kent from 1854 to 1857. With the Civil War interest in the settlement declined but a small negro community remained in Buxton.

Phillips, Charles E. *The Development of Education in Canada.* (Toronto: W. J. Gage Limited. 1957. Pp. xiv, 626, illus. $6.50).

Powell, R. Janet, compiler. *Annals of the Forty, Number 7: Loyalist and Pioneer Families of West Lincoln 1783-1833.* (Grimsby, Ontario: The Grimsby Historical Society. 1956. Pp. 76, illus. $1.25). Traces 22 families in alphabetical order as follows: Nelson, Nixon, Nunamaker, Oakley, Oille, Olmsted, Orth, Overholt, Page, Palmer, Parnell, Patterson, Pawling, Pettit, Phelps, Pilkington, Pottruff, Randall, Ransier, Reynolds, Rittenburg, Rittenhouse.

Powell, R. Janet, compiler. *Annals of the Forty, Number 8: Loyalist and Pioneer Families of West Lincoln 1783 to 1833.* (Grimsby, Ontario: The Grimsby Historical Society. 1957. Pp. 90, illus. $1.25). Traces 34 families in alphabetical order as follows: Roadhouse, Robins, Roszell, Rott, Rosseau, Roy, Runchey, Russ, Ryan, Ryckman, Rymal, Sampson, Schram, Secord, Servos, Shaw, Shepherd, Shipman, Shook, Showers, Skelley, Smith, Snure, Snyder, Spera, Springer, Springsted, Soules, Stafford, Stephenson, Stewart, Sumner, Swackhammer, Swayze.

Preston, Richard A. The First Lighthouses on Lake Ontario near Kingston (*Inland Seas,* XIII (3), Fall 1957, 198-204). Upper Canada built lighthouses at Mississauga Point, Gibraltar Point and Isle Forest (now Simcoe Island) in the years after 1803, as receipts from lighthouse duties permitted.

Prosvita Society, Fort William. *Golden Jubilee: Memories to Mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of the Prosvita Society in Fort William, Ontario.* (Fort William: The Society, 610 Simpson Street. 1956. Pp. 93, illus.). In Ukrainian.

Raddall, Thomas H. *The Path of Destiny: Canada from the British Conquest to Home Rule 1763-1850.* (Toronto: Doubleday Canada Limited. 1957. Pp. xii, 468. $6.00). The third volume in the Canadian History Series, edited by Thomas B. Costain.

Smith, Alexander William, ed. *In Those Days: A History of North Hastings and of South Nipissing.* (Bancroft, Ontario: The Editor. 1956. Pp. ix, 56, mimeo.). A series of histories of various townships and communities, contributed by old-time residents, school classes, and others, and collected by the Public School Inspector for the district "as an aid to the schools of the area covered in their study of the local history of the school community".

Société Historique du Nouvel-Ontario. *Documents Historiques No. 33.* (Sudbury: La Société, Université de Sudbury. 1957. Pp. 48, illus.). Contains two studies. The first "François Xavier de Charlevoix, S.J.", by L. Pouliot, reviews the life and work of the celebrated traveller and author, who passed through New France and Louisiana between 1720 and 1722. The second, "Missionaires au Lac Nipigon" by L. Cadieux, deals with the work of Father Frémiot and his successors in the Nipigon district between 1849 and 1906.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Lancaster. *An Historical Sketch of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Congregation, Lancaster, Ontario. 170th Anniversary 1787-1957.* (Lancaster: The Historical Committee, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. 1957. Pp. 18, illus.). The present church was erected between 1851 and 1855, but the congregation of Loyalists at Lancaster (then Kirk-Town) was served from 1787 by Rev. John Bethune of Williamstown, the only Presbyterian minister in Upper Canada before 1793. In 1834 Rev. Alexander McNaughton became the first permanent minister of the congregation.

Symons, Harry. *Fences.* (Toronto: Ryerson Press. 1958. Pp. xliv, 155, illus. by the late C. W. Jefferys. $4.95). Stories and pictures of various types of fences, many of them used in Upper Canada and Ontario.

Times Review, The, Fort Erie. *Fort Erie Centennial 1857-1957.* (A supplement to the Times Review, July 11, 1957. Pp. 56, illus. 50c). Historical sketches of Fort Erie and district from fur trading post to modern town and international port of entry. Articles deal with such subjects as railways, highways and the first Welland Canal, the Peace Bridge, the 1837 Rebellion, the Fenian Raid of 1866, the suburb of Bridgeburg, the Fort Erie race track.

Turek, Wiktor. *Sir Casimir Gzowski.* (Toronto: Canadian Polish Congress, Polish Research Institute of Canada. 1957. Pp. 109, illus. $1.50). The life of the great Polish-Canadian engineer (1813-1898), builder of canals, bridges, harbour works and railways (including the Grand Trunk line from Toronto to Sarnia), a supporter and director of such causes as the Canadian militia, Wycliffe College and the Niagara Falls Park. Knighted in 1890, he also served briefly as administrator for the Province of Ontario. In Polish, with English introduction and resumé.

United Church of Canada. *Training School, 60th Anniversary, 1895-1955.* (Toronto: United Church of Canada. 1956. Pp. 20, illus.). Since 1894 young women of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches have trained in Toronto for missionary work in Canada and abroad, with 1,350 of their graduates entering full-time church work. In 1955 the school, now operated by the United Church of Canada, moved to a new building on the campus of Victoria University, Toronto.

Wakefield, T. D. The "Last" Battle of Lake Erie (*Inland Seas,* XIII (3), Fall 1957, 205-6). Pelee Island was occupied by American sympathizers with the Canadian Rebellions on March 1, 1838 and retaken by British regulars and Canadian militia two days later with considerable loss of life.

Walker, Dr. and Mrs. Frank N. *Daylight Through the Mountain: Letters and Labours of Civil Engineers Walter and Francis Shanly.* (Toronto: Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Canada, Limited, for The Engineering Institute of Canada, Montreal. 1957. Pp. xiii, 442, illus. $6.00). The Shanly brothers were noted early railway builders, participating in the construction of the Bytown and Prescott, Great Western, Welland, North Shore, Canada Atlantic and Grand Trunk Railways in Canada, and on the Ogdensburgh and Lake Champlain line in New York and the five-mile Hoosac tunnel (the project referred to in the title) for the state of Massachusetts. They also were involved in canal and waterworks surveys, operating and directing various industries, and as arbitrators in contract disputes. Walter was General Manager of the Grand Trunk system from 1858 to 1862 and a Conservative M.P. from 1863 to 1872 and from 1885 to 1891. Extracts from the correspondence, now chiefly in the Ontario and National Archives, are drawn mainly from between the year 1843 and 1856 but continue down to 1896 when Walter, then aged 77, prepared his memoirs and a family history.

Wrong, Dennis H. Ontario Provincial Elections, 1934-55: A Preliminary Survey of Voting (*Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science,* XXIII (3), August 1957, 395-403). An examination of the results of six provincial general elections to show which sections of the province appear to offer most firm support to the Conservative, Liberal and C.C.F. parties, and which are the "battle constituencies".

York Pioneer and Historical Society. *The York Pioneer.* (Toronto: The Society, c/o Miss Marion Keffer, 3297 Yonge Street. 1957. Pp. 40, illus.). The Society's annual report for 1956, containing the following articles: "Notes on York County's Indian Background" by E. S. Coatsworth (pages 1-14); "Toronto Breaks Bounds Once a Century" by J. C. Boylen (pages 15-18); "Pioneers of the Fourth Estate" by Jean McFall (pages 19-20, 21-6); "The Jesse Ketchum Trust" by John Cowan (page 27); and "A Jeanne d'Arc Medal: Challenge to Local Historians" (pages 28-30).

Young, Anna G. *Off Watch: Today and Yesterday on the Great Lakes.* (Toronto: Ryerson Press. Pp. xviii, 166, illus. $4.00). Memories of Great Lakes shipping and ships as seen by a purser's daughter from her Sarnia home and from frequent trips along the waterway.

Zavitz, E. J. Lake Erie Playground (*Sylva,* XIII (3), March-April 1957, 22-4). The forestry station and historical park at Turkey Point, Norfolk County. See also *Sylva,* XIII (6), November-December 1957, 19-22, for a further report.

Zorn, Roman J. Criminal Extradition Menaces the Canadian Haven for Fugitive Slaves, 1841-1861 (*Canadian Historical Review,* XXXVIII (4), December 1957, 284-94). In 1841 Nelson Hackett, a slave who had fled to Canada, was returned to the United States to answer to a charge of theft, but once on American soil was handed back to his master in Arkansas without trial. In subsequent years while no formal change was made in the extradition treaty, various technicalities were used to avoid surrending fugitive slaves to American authorities.

I wish to thank the following persons who have brought recent publications to my attention for inclusion in the Book Notes section: Miss C. Freshwater, Miss E. Ash, Miss L. R. Benson, Mr. F. C. Curry, and Rev. A. E. Baker.

FORT YORK THREATENED

On January 24, 1958 the public learned that Toronto's most important historic site, Fort York, was in grave peril. The Metropolitan Roads Department had located the proposed Lakeshore Expressway so near to the fort that two of the concrete piers upon which the road was to be supported would be built into the southern wall, while for approximately one hundred feet the roadway would actually overhang the interior of the fort by as much as fifty feet. The Toronto Commissioner of Parks in referring the proposal to the Committee on Parks and Exhibitions of the Toronto City Council gave his understanding that this was the only practicable route, but the executive of the Toronto Civic Historical Committee later was informed by the Commissioner of the Roads Department that other feasible but somewhat less desirable alternatives could be adopted which did not actually encroach upon the fort. Representatives of the Civic Historical Committee have been before the Toronto Board of Control to plead that the fort be spared, the Metropolitan Roads Department continues to review its plans of alternative routes, and the Committee on Parks and Exhibitions still has the matter under advisement. Such is the situation at the moment of writing (February 14).

It is greatly to be hoped that the civic authorities will insist upon a route for the Lakeshore Expressway which does not intrude upon Fort York. A Department of Roads may arrive at decisions on the basis of physical considerations — gradients, levels, traffic flow, construction costs—but public authorities should base their judgment on more than the narrow vantage of engineering practice. As one of Canada's leading governing bodies, Toronto City Council must be mindful of how its action in this instance may affect similar decisions by other governments. Its action, too, must be squared with the work being done to preserve many other worthy historical monuments by public-minded citizens and corporations with the Council's support. Even more, the decision involves the city's obligations towards an entire Canadian nation—which Toronto undertook by acquiring the property from the Dominion Government—of maintaining the fort in perpetuity and utilizing its lands exclusively for the purpose of parks and exhibitions.

The surest protection for Fort York is an aroused, informed public, ready to show concern that the fort be preserved intact and inviolate. The Toronto newspapers have aired the situation in their news columns and editorial pages. The Toronto Civic Historical Committee is striving to have its views considered by every department, committee and board connected with the matter. The Ontario Historical Society has written the Chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto Council, the Mayor and Board of Control of Toronto, the Toronto Civic Historical Committee and the *Globe and Mail*. Members of the York Pioneer and Historical Society, the United Empire Loyalists Association and the Women's Canadian Historical Society have joined the fray. We urge all our readers, as individuals and through their local historical societies, to act to save Fort York.

NEW PAGES IN HISTORY, 1957

Edited by J. Norman Emerson[1]

The year witnessed ever-increased archaeological activity in Ontario. Expeditions traversed the length and breadth of the province examining a broad range of sites. All time periods were encountered and studied, from the very ancient Sheguiandah site to relatively recent Huron occupations. Geographically the investigations ranged from the wooded regions of Quetico Park on the west and the windswept shores of Lake Nipigon on the north, to the Ottawa valley and St. Lawrence Power project area on the east.

The pre-Iroquoian manifestations received the greatest amount of attention, and new and exciting additions to knowledge have been made here. The novel discoveries made by Professor T. F. McIlwraith are described under the title of the Puckasaw Pit Culture. These strange stone pit structures, nestling along the raised beaches on the rugged northeastern shoreline of Lake Superior constitute a new contribution to North American archaeology.

In the Early Man studies, Mr. Tom Lee brings to our attention a notable extension of the famous Sheguiandah quartzite quarry complex. Mr. Lee's work for the National Museum this year was basically of a wide range survey type, covering a variety of manifestations and including everything from Old Copper Culture material to white trading posts.

Mr. Selwyn Dewdney's expedition into the Quetico Park region to investigate and record rock paintings represents a new departure, an exciting excursion into an area of research which has long been overlooked by Ontario archaeologists.

The systematic investigation of sites in the Bruce County area by the Royal Ontario Museum has brought us detailed information upon Laurentian or possible pre-Laurentian cultural manifestations in this region. This work is the result in large measure of the patient and long-time interest in the Bruce Peninsula of Mr. Tom Lee and Mr. Fritz Knechtel of Hanover, who for many years have protected these sites and have brought them to the attention of the archaeological world. It is hoped that this year's work may lead to increased activity in the Bruce Peninsula and related areas. The excavation has also revealed interesting information upon both Point Peninsula and Iroquoian cultures in this section.

Extensive contributions were made throughout the year to an increasing knowledge of the Point Peninsula culture. The University of Toronto and the National Museum completed a second season's joint investigation of the Ault Park Site, Sheek Island, in the St. Lawrence

1. Supervisor of Archaeological Studies, Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto.

Power Project area, west of Cornwall. This site is threatened by flooding and here archaeologists moved into the area with bulldozers. The undertaking was followed with great interest by Hydro engineers who greatly assisted the expedition's work. Dr. J. N. Emerson describes the results of this novel approach in the report on Ault Park, a site which undoubtedly provides one of the most extensive samples of Ontario Point Peninsula data as yet extant. Mr. Clyde Kennedy of Deep River has also contributed a number of very interesting observations upon Point Peninsula culture in that section of the Ottawa valley.

The Royal Ontario Museum, with Ontario Hydro's interest and co-operation, has opened up a whole new area of investigation with their work on the English River. Mr. Walter Kenyon reports upon this work in his observations upon the Swan Lake excavations.

Under the field direction of Mr. Richard Johnston, the Royal Ontario Museum continued its long-term excavation programme at the famous Serpent Mounds. This site presents a complex archaeological problem and requires particularly slow and meticulous digging to capture the details of mound construction. The summer's work produced spectacular advances in our knowledge of the burial complex. The twenty-nine skeletons recovered should offer an extremely useful contribution to physical anthropological knowledge as well as shedding light upon burial customs.

Investigations into the Iroquoian culture were carried out by the University of Toronto, the University of Western Ontario, and the Ontario Archaeological Society. The Toronto Fall Student Excavation was carried out at the "Old Indian Fort Site", on the Murphy Farm, east of Vandorf, Ontario. This site had been previously investigated by the University in the spring of 1947, and prior to that by David Boyle around 1900. Its position in the development of Huron sequence is now rather well established. The interesting finds at the Boyd Site, near Woodbridge, by the Ontario Archaeological Society are reported by the president, Mr. Paul Sweetman. Dr. Wilfrid Jury's work in the Huron area was largely confined to reconstruction and preservation of the model (life-size) Huron village at Midland, and to training carried out at the Forget site. The finding of native copper artifacts at this latter site provides us with an archaeological puzzle, to say the least.

Those indefatigable archaeological searchers, surveyors and reconstructionists, Mr. Frank Ridley and Mr. Douglas Clarke, both of the Ontario Archaeological Society, continued their broad survey work, and both publication and display are bringing the story of archaeology and prehistory to the Algonquin Park area.

THE PUCKASAW PIT CULTURE

By T. F. McIlwraith[2]

Archaeological investigations by the Department of Anthropology, University of Toronto,[3] have revealed a series of stone structures on raised beaches on the rugged north shore of Lake Superior. Thus far, one hundred and thirty-eight of these structures have been located on boulder beaches varying in elevation from twenty feet above lake level to more than one hundred feet. It is probable that additional beaches exist in the heavy bush back from the shoreline.

The pit structures are located upon a hundred-mile stretch of shoreline from the vicinity of the town of Marathon, Ontario, south to Ganley Harbour. Pits occur at Red Sucker Point, Ypres Point, Swallow River, Newman's Creek, Otter Cove, Cabin Cove, Steven's Bay, Cairn Island, Richardson's Harbour, Richardson's Bay, La Canadienne Point and Ganley Harbour.

The shoreline in the area is rough and rugged. There are a considerable number of small coves, harbours and sheltered inlets. The shore is often characterized by cliffs and by high, rolling hills covered with dense bush, often to the shoreline. The raised beaches, which occur at irregular intervals, comprise large ascending, triangular areas often contained by converging cliffs. The beach boulders vary in size and concentration. The finer, smaller beaches tend to occur at the lower levels, while the hundred-foot beaches are made up of much larger boulders. These are lichen-covered, and overgrown with caribou moss. Tree growth varies from almost nothing to very considerable, and we suspect that a number of beaches are overgrown, obscuring evidence.

Stone structures occur on most, though not all, of the exposed beaches. The most obvious and more concentrated are upon the lower beach levels. These have been built by piling up the water-rounded beach stones into a low wall a foot or two in height, with corresponding depression where the stones were removed from within the enclosure. The result is a pit-like structure which we have termed "Pukasaw Pits" from their discovery near the Pukasaw River. Such pits are usually elongated ovals in shape, about 7 feet wide and 9 to 11 feet long. Orientation varied, but a doorway was often located at the end away from the lake, and the long axis pointed toward the shore. The great bulk of the pits were located upon beaches which were open to, and no doubt subject to, the full sweep of storms. This is of interest because in the same area as the pits there were other more sheltered and favourable positions which could have been used, but were not. Apparently the exposed location was

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3. This research was made possible through the courtesy of the Marathon Corporation which provided transportation and accommodation on its cabin cruiser for the party. Mr. Colin MacMillan of the Corporation was the first to discover these pits and to bring them to our attention, and in addition was most helpful in the location and recording of further pits.

preferred. Experiments by Mr. Colin MacMillan indicated that such a pit could be produced in one hour and lined with moss to produce a snug, comfortable, well-protected shelter which could have been covered with a skin or an upturned canoe.

The second type of structure, often associated with the typical Pukasaw pit, is simply a small circular stone pit which appears to be much too small for dwelling purposes. They are usually 3 feet in diameter, 2 or 3 feet deep, and there are no suggestions of doorways. In appearance they suggest food caches, but no remains were found in them. Such pits are not numerous but occasionally two or three will be closely connected with a pit cluster.

The third type of structure we have called a "tent ring". These are found upon the middle or upper beaches and are also in association with the pit type of structure. The tent ring structure simply appears as a circular area where stones have been placed to produce a flat floor, some 20 feet in diameter. These sometimes occur as interconnected sets of two. Upon the periphery occasionally there are large boulders scattered in a ring. One of these structures was floored with pebbles of approximately 2-inch diameter.

The fourth type of structure we have referred to as the Pukasaw "apartment building". They are most interesting because they tend to be associated with the highest beaches encountered to date. The pattern of the tent ring type is followed insofar as the flattened and levelled floor area is the most conspicuous feature. The shape is rectangular, however, not round. These will occur as single-unit dwellings, 10 feet by 10 feet, but the most interesting ones will combine two and three of these units to produce a structure 10 feet by 30 feet with intervening partitions. One such structure also had oval pits, 7 by 9 feet, located at each end. It is such an extensive concentration that led us to the term "apartment buildings". One, upon the lower beaches at Red Sucker Point, was a 20 by 30 feet structure, with pits and cache pits in the vicinity. This would appear to be a rather extensive structure for this type of culture.

Only six pits could be excavated in the time available. Local conditions made it necessary to work only on pits at the lower levels where the base of loose boulders and lack of earth would have allowed small objects to slip downwards and ultimately disappear. Only one artifact was recovered, a circular clam-shell fragment, centrally perforated. From the same pit, on Cairn Island, a perforated piece of sandstone was recovered in a preliminary reconnaissance two years ago. This object appears to be unworked, but its presence in the pit is almost certainly due to human agency.

Both the function of these structures and the period of their erection remains uncertain. The general construction of all types is essentially the same, and their number and presence over a distance of one hundred miles proves that it was no local manifestation. Such obvious explana-

tions as shelters or gun pits built during the days of the fur trade can be ruled out; their location on exposed beaches would have no strategic value. In fact, any connection with European contacts can be eliminated. Nor could they have served as caribou blinds. The possibility of their use as sweat houses is improbable, both on account of their number and the absence of fire-broken stones. Likewise the large number is a strong argument against their use for shelters during a vision quest, or any comparable religious activity demanding isolation. Some of the structures were probably food caches, but this certainly does not explain more than a small percentage.

Certain suggestions and propositions may be made. The antiquity of these structures would seem certain. Their occurrence on different beach levels suggests great antiquity and the continuance of this culture over a considerable period. The use of stone as building material, rather than sod or wood, may suggest that both these materials were scarce or absent; and we may postulate the association of these stone structures with tundra conditions such as were likely present with the last glacial recession. This would appear to conform with an idea of shelters, perhaps, along an early migration route. However, the solution of these problems will require future research. It is planned to reinvestigate, map and record the beach locations of the known structures in detail and to expand our survey into adjacent areas in the summer of 1958.

NORTHERN SURVEY

By Thomas E. Lee[4]

In mid-July of 1957, archaeological survey activities were started in the Northern Ontario area and were continued until August 9, when Ruth Marshall and W. Renison of Toronto joined me for the more detailed work of excavating.

En route to the area, another examination was made of a curious stone in the woods near Portage du Fort, bearing an obviously recent inscription. A reported "grave" nearby was found to contain only charred bits of domestic-animal bones and fragments of a white clay pipe. An Indian site on Morrison's Island below Pembroke was again checked, but without significant results.

Brief examinations of several spots along Highway 11 produced only one small site on the bank of the Nagogami River and concentrations of firestones on the shore of a small lake. At Beardmore, enquiries were made into the circumstances surrounding the finding of the well-known Norse relics near that town.

Investigations into several reported Old Copper discoveries along Lake Nipigon were made more interesting by the chance encounter with Dr. J. B. Griffin of the University of Michigan and G. Quimby of the

4. Archaeologist, The National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.

Chicago Museum of Natural History, who were engaged there in much the same activities.

At Nipigon, brief examination was made of the remains of a trading post. In that area, considerable time was devoted to certain interesting features on Thunder Cape, particularly to the problems of the elevations of old beaches and the relation of early sites to them.

In the Lakehead region, where a much appreciated and unusual degree of co-operation was received from local residents, a number of sites and collections were examined. These included preceramic, Point Peninsula, and historic features. A definite trace of Early Man showed up in collections. At one preceramic site, an associated Indian quarry was observed; it occurs as a creek-bed exposure of what appears to be taconite.

Curious pits and stone cairns on an old beach at Fort William were measured and photographed, but time did not permit further examination. The beach appears to be at an elevation of 758 feet above sea level. Some reported stone mounds in the woods at Brule Bay were visited and were found to represent the fairly recent activities of white men. The sites of two early trading posts were kindly pointed out by Mr. Carson Piper.

Upon returning to the Manitoulin area, a number of investigations were carried out. Included were the excavation of a repeatedly occupied cave; important work on the Sheguiandah site by Miss Marshall; several checks of the Giant site, with important results; and the examination of an apparently Early Woodland site on a small island at the east end of McGregor Bay.

Noteworthy was the finding of another quartzite site of the Sheguiandah Focus. It is one-third mile long and is associated with an impressive Indian quarry of the same age.

A little time was devoted to the examination of peat bogs with Dr. J. Terasmae and to the study of glacial features at Bass Lake.

Mr. Renison and Miss Marshall returned to Toronto in early September. My field work thereafter was confined to several early historic features along the Ottawa River in the vicinity of Hawkesbury, until the end of October.

QUETICO PICTOGRAPHS

By Selwyn Dewdney[5]

Initiated by the Royal Ontario Museum, financed by the Quetico Foundation, equipped and expedited in the field by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, this pictograph expedition to Quetico Provincial Park has opened up a promising new field of investigation into the Indian past.

Eleven sites were visited by canoe, motor boat and plane during the months of July and August; and complete records were made of the

5. Artist and writer of London, Ontario.

pictographs, all painted on cliffs at the waterside, none more recently than a century ago. Numerous water colour reproductions to size were made, and photographs taken in colour and in black and white. These visual records, along with diagrams locating the pictographs accurately on each rock face, have been deposited with the Museum. In addition a 10,000-word report has been mimeographed by the Quetico Foundation.

The pictographs are small, averaging eight inches in height; are painted in the variations of red- to yellow-brown that suggest an iron oxide base; and cover a wide variety of subject matter ranging from human and animal forms to hieroglyphs. Styles also vary widely, even within a single group of pictographs. The one petroglyph group found seems to be of more recent origin.

Plans are already underway for a second expedition in 1958. Accumulating reports indicate that there are at least fifty sites in Ontario alone: probably more. Changes in water levels and the slow fading from weather erosion make it imperative that records be made without delay. Such records, especially if reliable evidence of the age of individual pictographs can be assembled, should provide valuable clues as to cultural diffusion and tribal migrations in post-Columbian times.

AN ANCIENT SETTLEMENT IN BRUCE COUNTY

By Walter A. Kenyon[6]

As one of its major projects this past summer, the Royal Ontario Museum excavated, on the shores of Lake Huron, an ancient settlement which has been occupied by various people for some 5,000 years.

The first group to arrive on the scene were migratory hunters who inhabited the region when the waters of Lake Huron stood some 25 to 40 feet above the present level. Today, their ancient camp-sites are situated on sand-dunes, well back from the present beach; and their most common tool is so crude that it is rarely noticed by the untrained observer.

At present, we do not even have a name for these early Ontario residents. We know only that they camped along the shores of the lake before either agriculture or pottery were introduced into northeastern North America. They lived on fish, game and birds, with a heavy emphasis, probably, on the larger mammals. We found very few bones in our excavations, but we uncovered many large fireplaces, up to 5 feet in diameter, which must have been used to barbecue large joints of meat. Scattered about these hearths were the tools that these ancient hunters used to capture and prepare their food.

Their principal weapon was the dart or spear with a corner-notched point of poor quality chert. This was probably propelled with an atlatl or spear thrower, because evidence from other archaeological sites sug-

6. Assistant Curator of Ethnology, The Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto.

gests that the bow and arrow had not yet arrived in eastern North America. Their most common tool, however, was a crude but effective knife, fashioned by simply detaching a large flake from a water-worn boulder. Known locally as a 'bust-off', this diagnostic artifact was probably an all-purpose tool, used to skin and dissect game, as well as scale and clean fish. Hundreds of these tools were picked up on the surface, and a great many were found in our diggings. Occasionally, a specimen had been sharpened by crude flaking along the thin edge, but most of them were simply discarded when dull.

At the edge of one fire-place we found a small conical spear point or harpoon fashioned from native copper; near this was a very well-made polished-stone adze-blade of a distinctive type. Occasionally, we would find a small flint scraper, a bit of polished stone too small to identify, or a portion of a flint drill.

Beyond this we know nothing whatever of these early people. Possibly they were the descendants of the group whose quarry and village were found on Eastern Manitoulin Island by Thomas E. Lee, of Canada's National Museum, a group which lived on the shores of a glacial lake over 9,000 years ago. Possibly, too, they were related to the Laurentian peoples who were scattered over much of this region about 2,500 B.C. Only further research can answer these questions.

As the waters of Lake Huron approached their present level, these earliest hunters disappeared from the scene, to be replaced by a more sophisticated culture—the Point Peninsula—which introduced pottery to the region some 1,500 years B.C. These people made medium-sized vessels with almost vertical sides, slightly outflaring rims and sharply-pointed bottoms. They were built up by the 'coil' method, in much the same manner as children in our society make small vessels from ropes of plasticine.

Whether these people actually maintained a permanent settlement at the site we do not know. Certainly they visited the site frequently, for their refuse has been found at several different spots, and in rather large quantities. But it is possible that they were largely migratory, visiting the region only at certain seasons. The presence of native copper fish-hooks, and large numbers of notched stones that were used for either net- or line-sinkers suggests that it was a spring fishing camp.

The next people to appear on the scene were the Owasco, a little known group that was probably ancestral to the Iroquois who inhabited the region when our ancestors arrived from Europe. Our sample of Owascoid materials is extremely small, but includes some coarse, rough pottery that was decorated with a textile or fabric impression, and some half-dozen oval, chipped slate knives. The knives, as well as the pottery, were found scattered about a single large, shallow hearth.

At a later date, probably about 700 or 800 years ago, the spot was first visited by the Iroquois. Large areas of the site were formerly

covered by their refuse, but wind-erosion and shifting sand-dunes along the shore have caused extensive destruction. A fairly comprehensive sample of their artifacts was recovered, however, enabling us to reconstruct the aboriginal patterns of existence with reasonable accuracy.

First, a number of features, such as ash dumps and post moulds, which are usually found on Iroquois village sites in Ontario, were not encountered in our excavations. Second, other items, such as randomly-scattered camp-fires which are not usual features in Iroquois villages were encountered here with great frequency. It is a reasonable assumption, then, that this was a camp-site used only part of the year.

An analysis of the faunal remains from this site gives us a good clue as to the diet of these people. We know, of course, both from early historic records and from archaeological investigations in other parts of the Province that the Iroquois practised extensive agriculture, growing large quantities of corn, beans and squash. On this site, however, only fish, bird and mammal remains were encountered. A wide range of mammals was present, suggesting that this early population either had no preferences, or else was not in a position to indulge them.

The most common bird bones recovered were those of the passenger pigeon, followed by ducks and the common loon. But by far most plentiful were fish bones and scales. These occurred in tremendous quantities, in some spots forming solid, tightly-packed layers up to four inches in thickness. If this fish refuse had accumulated around the camp from day-to-day living, we would expect it to be widely scattered and mixed with the sand as were the bird and mammal bones. Such, however, was not the case. We conclude, therefore, that the solid masses of fish refuse were the result of some large, communal operation in which great numbers of fish were taken at one time, probably to be dried for future use. This could be done with either nets or a fish weir. And in the absence of net-sinkers, it must have been the latter.

The popularity of this particular stretch of the Lake Huron shore can, I think, be explained by the very good fishing it afforded. Since the first people wandered into the region many thousands of years ago, they have visited this spot periodically. Four different Indian cultures have left a record of their visit in the ever-shifting sand-dunes. Overlying their deposits one finds hand wrought iron nails and similar debris from the early historic period. And even today, other migratory fishermen visit the site every spring from their offices in Toronto and Detroit.

BEFORE THE FLOOD

By J. Norman Emerson

The fringe of civilization—that was what seemed to lie before us as we entered upon our second, and probably our last, summer's opportunity to seek out the ancient relics beneath the surface of Ault Park. During the summer of 1956 we had methodically uncovered more than 5,000

square feet of this ancient burial site, but still many acres remained untouched and uninvestigated.

Great changes had been wrought during our absence. As we drove down the pocked road towards Ault Park we were gradually overcome with a sense of awesome desolation and change. The long rows of summer cottages which had dotted the shores of Sheek Island were gone, moved across the ice to new locations on the mainland. Moulinette and Milles Roches were almost "ghost towns", most of the homes having been carried by great house movers to new townsites beyond the area to be flooded. A great pall of smoke overhung much of the island as the slashers methodically cut down and burned trees and brush in what was soon to become river bottom. The air resounded with the whine of power saws and the crash of falling trees, while the acrid smoke of the green brush fires made our eyes water and at times made breathing difficult. For miles on both sides of the river the forest had been cleared away, and during the summer we were made aware of the increased intensity of the wind as sand from the denuded areas often blasted our camp and excavation. The hydro lines ceased far short of our camp, and the spring from which we had drawn water in 1956 now was dry.

But most spectacular was the transformation in the Long Sault Rapids, still an inspiring and fearful sight in 1956. Then the magnificent rush of turbulent water had been ever with us, the constant roar of the rapids furnishing an eerie background for our work. Now they were gone. The river bed was almost dry. The great slabs of rock which for ages had hurled up the plunging waves now lay exposed to the eye, sprawled in a naked, jumbled array. Potholes and crevices, through which small streams of water still trickled, formed natural pools in which we were able to bathe during the summer.

In the midst of this change we set up our camp, and probably the very desolation spurred our efforts to hurry along and finish the work before the site became covered by fourteen feet of water.

Again our expedition was sponsored jointly by the University of Toronto and the National Museum of Canada. The working force was swelled by members of both the Ontario and Quebec Archaeological Societies, as well as by many Hydro employees and numerous interested individuals, so that we had an average of about thirty persons regularly in camp during July and August.

The excavation programme fell into two sections — continued methodical excavation; and rapid, somewhat gross, test-digging. By the former we uncovered approximately seven thousand square feet of the site. This work greatly enlarged the sample of material of Ontario Point Peninsula, and naturally is very similar to that found in 1956—a considerable range of projectile points, scrapers and ceramic fragments, along with items of native copper. These artifacts constitute one of the most adequate samples available to date for statistical analysis in the Point

Peninsula series. The methodical digging was productive, but our most exciting and rewarding work was an excursion into "bulldozer archaeology".

Archaeologists, as a rule, view earth-moving machines with interest but also with trepidation. There is no doubt about their ability to move great volumes of soil quickly, but there is the constant fear of material being lost, crushed or broken by such mechanical methods. However at Ault Park circumstances appeared to justify this means; for if materials and features were not recovered now they were not going to be recovered at all. To us it was indeed a novel experiment, and one which proved very rewarding.

The machine used was a five-ton front loader, purposely selected because its mechanical tracks were well worn and would not dig deeply into the sandy soil. It was provided by the Hydro, who worked in very close co-operation with us and exhibited a keen interest both in the experiment and in our digging. The operator was instructed to remove the soil in only three-inch layers, a task which he performed with great skill and accuracy. The general technique was to uncover an area roughly 150 by 50 feet to the depth of three inches, and then to move to a new area, thus ensuring that no one worked closer than fifty feet from the bulldozer. Once an area had been scraped our workers would walk carefully over it, studying soil discolourations for concentrations of fire-burned stones and ash which indicated "hearth areas." These would be marked with a red stake and roped off; then they were carefully excavated with trowels, photographed, and mapped. In this manner several dozen hearths were recovered.

Besides hearth structures the surveyors collected any artifacts exposed. We were very favourably impressed by the small amount of damage done to pottery. It was quite usual for the bulldozer to dislodge a fragment or two as it moved along. But these fragments, when collected, showed few if any new breaks, indicating that the big machine had not seriously disturbed them. A considerable amount of pottery was found in this way, and also a beautiful Old Copper culture axe-blade. Once an area had been covered by the workers, the bulldozer returned and removed a second three inches, and the whole process was then repeated. In this way during a ten-day period several acres were cleared, and in some areas the soil was removed to a total depth of eighteen inches.

In the course of this scraping immense dirt piles were accumulated. Several diggers raked and sifted these piles which sometimes were ten or fifteen feet in height. The amount of material recovered in this manner was not great, further evidence of the success of the scraping technique.

In addition to the dark stains in the sandy subsoil which indicated concentrations of fire-burned stones, the bulldozer operator was warned to be very careful to inform us of any red discolourations, for these

marked the occurrence of red-ochre burials. In 1956 we had encountered some eighteen red-ochre cremation burials in a sandy knoll overlooking the Long Sault Rapids, leading us to surmise that the burials would be concentrated all along the edge of this bluff. Since our major excavations several hundred feet back from the bluff had revealed no burials we felt that the habitation area might have been in this locality. But the bulldozer indicated that our hypotheses had been ill-founded, for several more red-ochre burials, including a group of three, were found well back in the main site area and remote from the river. We now suspect, accordingly, that the whole site, roughly congruous with the park, was used as a burial ground. The red-ochre areas were usually located at a depth of eighteen inches and were accompanied by grave goods, including flint knives and nicely-made cache blades. This broadening of our knowledge of the burial distribution certainly justified the bulldozer technique.

By the end of the season a tremendous area had been uncovered, but other great areas remained untouched. We hope to secure much additional information in the little time that still is left. By late May or early June, 1958, the waters will return to the Long Sault, but the actual flooding of Ault Park will probably not occur until a somewhat later date. We hope to work out a technique of sluicing away the dirt piles accumulated last year to recover more material by means analogous to placer mining. We hope also to uncover further hearths and burials by means of the bulldozer and to refine the "blitz method" of bulldozer archaeology. When finally the waters rise and lap over this 3,500-year old burial ground we will certainly experience mixed feelings of achievement and of frustration. But we can feel secure in the knowledge that a broad chapter has been added to the pages of Ontario prehistory as the man-made flood that marks the progress of one civilization finally erases the remains of another and older culture.

OTTAWA VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY

By Clyde Kennedy[7]

Further evidence that the Ottawa valley was travelled by many peoples through some thousands of years before its exploration by Samuel de Champlain was obtained during last season's archaeological work. One campsite, which is probably of considerable age, was discovered on an old river beach. Some other interesting finds made during recent investigations in the valley are the following: a fairly extensive Point Peninsula site and four smaller campsites of this culture; a site that contains obsidian, a volcanic glass rarely found in Ontario; and a site that yielded a type of "colored" pottery not previously reported in eastern Canada.

When I examined the walls of a garbage disposal pit that had been bulldozed out of an old Ottawa River beach, some 25 feet above the

7. Public Relations Officer, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, Chalk River, Ontario.

present level of the river, I found flakes and chips of chert and quartzite. Excavation carried out near the pit indicated the campsite was preceramic (the people who stopped there apparently did not have pottery) and brought to light an interesting projectile point that suggests the site is old. But the strongest present evidence for a considerable antiquity for the site may lie in the fact that the cultural materials were dispersed through the sand and gravel of the old beach. Dr. Nelson Gadd and Dr. Jaan Terasmae of the Geological Survey of Canada visited the site and agreed with the view that the materials lay in a shore deposit reworked by the river some time after the site was occupied.

The largest of the five Point Peninsula sites found last summer may be of considerable importance in throwing light on the cultural traits of Point Peninsula in this general region. The pottery decorations include rocker stamping, cord marking, pseudo-scallop shell, complex dentate, finger nail marking, and punctate. An older campsite lies beneath the Point Peninsula, with 12 to 18 inches of practically sterile sand, some of it clearly water-laid, lying between the two occupations. (The only find in this sand is the base of a Laurentian type projectile point.) No pottery has yet been found in the lower campsite, which contains hearths, chert chips and scrapers, and chunks of quartz and quartzite.

Materials that do not occur naturally in the Ottawa valley have been found at various sites and include soapstone, catlinite, and copper. The latter was probably mined in the Lake Superior deposits of native copper; the soapstone might have been obtained in the Eastern Townships of Quebec; and the catlinite might have been quarried in Ohio, Minnesota or Wisconsin. Black obsidian was added last summer to the list of exotic materials found on Indian sites in the valley. Erosion of the river bank by the high water that followed Hurricane Audrey revealed pieces of the volcanic glass, and a test hole brought to light flakes of it in an ash bed. Natural deposits of obsidian occur in British Columbia and the Yukon, but these flakes might have been quarried in any one of a number of deposits in the western United States, and perhaps in Yellowstone National Park, some 1,600 miles away. Such materials found along the Ottawa River suggest wide trading by the various peoples who inhabited eastern Canada long before the arrival of the white man.

The "colored" pottery was found in a different site that contains a large quantity of fire-cracked stone, chert flakes, scrapers and calcined bone. No rims have been found and it has not yet been possible to classify the pottery. Apparently ground hematite was applied to both the exterior and interior surfaces of the pot before the decoration was impressed on it and before it was fired. Particles of the red hematite are baked into the surfaces and are so numerous on the exteriors of some sherds that the pottery has an obvious red hue. Other sherds must be examined with a magnifying glass in order to see the hematite particles and this suggests that similar "colored" pottery may well have been found elsewhere in Ontario but the hematite simply has not been noticed.

Practically all the sherds are split and no trace of hematite has been found on the surface of these fractures, which indicates that the hematite was not simply mixed into the clay before manufacture of the pot began. The coloring of the pottery may have had some ritualistic significance, as has been suggested for the ceremonial sprinkling of red hematite in burials.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE ENGLISH RIVER DISTRICT

By Walter A. Kenyon

During July and August of this past summer, a survey was made of the archaeological resources of the English River district of Northwestern Ontario. The party consisted of myself, Mrs. Kenyon, and George Swan, the boatman.

The project was undertaken for two reasons: first, it is an area about which was very little known, and therefore any information would be a valuable addition to our knowledge of the prehistory of the Province; second, the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario was building two dams in the area, one at Whitedog Falls and one at Caribou, and officials of the Commission kindly placed their extensive facilities at the disposal of the Museum.

For the first month we surveyed, by boat, the lower stretches of the English River from Tetu Lake to Maynard Falls, and that portion of the Winnipeg River which lies between Whitedog Falls and Boundary Falls. The basic method employed was to cruise the rivers and lakes while watching the shoreline through binoculars for sandy beaches. Whenever one was located, we would go ashore and examine it for artifacts.

We knew from historic documents that the natives of the region used birch-bark canoes when the Europeans first appeared on the scene. We knew also that this excellent craft is easily damaged if it should scrape against a rock. We reasoned, therefore, that the most likely place to look for both early historic and late prehistoric Indian settlements would be on sandy shores where a birch-bark canoe could be launched or beached with the least possibility of its being damaged. We realized, at the same time, that this method would merely scratch the surface, for earlier peoples probably used the dugout canoe, but scratching the surface was all we could hope to do on a preliminary survey of a little-known region.

In one month's work, a total of 30 sites was located, a collection of specimens was recovered from each, and rock paintings were visited and recorded at three different spots.

The sites located were of two different types, village-sites and camp-sites. By a village, I refer to an extensive deposit of debris containing fragments of pottery, stone tools, and animal and fish bones. Four such settlements were located. The other 26 were camp-sites, consisting usually of a few scattered chips or artifacts of stone, with perhaps the occasional

sherd strewn along the beach. At most of the camp-sites the collected materials were much too scanty to permit an identification of the peoples who camped there. Isolated single artifacts—and several of these were located—were not included in the above tabulation.

The distribution of the camp and village sites shows that there has been very little change in the annual cycle of activities of these people over the last few hundred years. Certainly there have been changes, very important ones, but the basic relationship between the people and the country they inhabit remains the same.

Today, for example, there are a few widely-scattered reservations in the area, each with its cluster of log or frame buildings, usually a trading-post, and almost always a church. In the area surveyed, such settlements are located at Swan Lake, Whitedog Falls, Oneman Lake and Grassy Narrows. When one visits these settlements in the summer, however, most of the houses are empty, for the people are scattered along the surrounding waterways, fishing and picking blueberries.

Our brief archaeological reconnaissance shows that this same spatial distribution of the population has prevailed since the earliest historic period, and, as near as we know, since the late prehistoric period as well. For at or near each of the present settlements we found also an archaeological site producing pottery and stone tools. And scattered along the surrounding waterways are the ancient camp-sites.

The only difference in the spatial distribution of these people that we could find consisted of a change in the type of camp selected. Today, the Indians camp almost invariably on points of smoothly glaciated rock that jut out into the lakes and rivers. Previously, they camped on sandy beaches which faced either south or east, and thus afforded protection from the north and northeast winds. And this change is associated with the introduction of the cedar-strip canoe which enables the boatman to utilize natural wharves—that is, smooth flat rocks that drop off sharply into deep water—with little fear of damaging his craft.

During the second month of our reconnaissance we excavated one of the village sites which we had located during the survey. We selected for more thorough study a fairly large cultural deposit some 250 feet long and 50 to 75 feet wide on a narrow isthmus at the south end of Swan Lake. As with most of the sites located, this one was situated on a long sandy beach which faced southeast. Our choice of this particular site was based on the presence of a few scraps of European copper in our surface collection. This suggested a possibility of its dating from the early historic period. And in a little-known area, one of the first problems is to acquire a collection of excavated artifacts that can be dated with some precision. This enables the prehistorian to work back into the unknown periods of history from a firmly-established factual basis.

The deposit at Swan Lake consisted of a thin but very rich stratum extending from the surface to the underlying clay subsoil. Rarely was

it more than four inches thick. Dotted throughout the deposit were the only features we encountered, a number of shallow hearths, frequently surrounded by circles of stones. A preliminary comparison of the artifacts from opposite ends of the site shows that there are no stylistic differences in either the pottery or the projectile points. We assume, therefore, that the location was inhabited only once, and for a period of time which was too brief to reflect any marked changes in fashion. How long that period might be in terms of actual years, of course, we do not know.

The artifacts recovered include several hundred potsherds, arrowpoints, scrapers, antler harpoons, scraps of copper and iron, five glass beads and the top jaw of a flint-lock gun. Because the items of European origin are so few, we may conclude that the site was inhabited when these natives first had access to European trade goods, say around 1775.

The pottery, a dull-grey ware, was probably manufactured by the 'coil' method, was grit tempered, and evidently well fired. Vessels were small, globular in shape, with sharply constricted necks and slightly outflaring rims. More than half of the vessels were plain; the remainder had been decorated by the application, in various designs, of a cord-wrapped stick or the edge of a cord-wrapped paddle to the damp clay. Decoration was usually confined to the rim and lip of the vessel.

Projectile points and scrapers were characteristically small, and fashioned from a variety of local rocks, as well as some materials which had been imported from the western plains. One specimen was made from a flake of obsidian or volcanic glass which was obtained, probably, from the Rocky Mountains.

Although the region under investigation is now inhabited by the Ojibway, a preliminary study of the pottery strongly suggests that it was made by the Assiniboin, a group of Siouan Indians who are now living on the western plains, and who are reported to have occupied the Lake of the Woods area as late as 1680.

SERPENT MOUNDS EXCAVATION OF 1957 *By Richard B. Johnston*[8]

For the past three years the Royal Ontario Museum has conducted archaeological investigation of the Serpent Mounds Site on the north shore of Rice Lake, in Peterborough County, Ontario. During nine weeks of the 1957 field season explorations were continued, providing additional evidence which will aid archaeologists in reconstructing the culture of these prehistoric peoples of Ontario.

The central feature at the site is an earthen mound almost 200 feet in length and about 35 feet in width. Three distinct angles along the long axis suggest the "serpent" designation. Seven other smaller conical or oval mounds are located around the Serpent Mound. Extensive de-

8. Field Director, Serpent Mounds Excavation.

posits of mussel shells are found nearby along the shore of Rice Lake, further evidence of prehistoric habitation at this site. As well, there are indications that a village area is located not far from the mounds and shell heaps.

Although excavations were made at this site as early as 1895 by Dr. David Boyle, the work of the past three years has been the first thorough examination of the mound group and other features. Since 1955, when the 70-acre tract including the archaeological area was formed into a Provincial Park, the Division of Art and Archaeology of the Royal Ontario Museum has undertaken exploration of the site. The archaeological work has been financed largely by the Serpent Mounds Foundation of Peterborough. The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests has thus far developed the park by building roads, parking areas, and picnic facilities.

Excavations during the summer of 1957 were concentrated on the eastern end of the Serpent Mound and in one of the smaller adjoining mounds. The effort, as in previous summers, was mostly productive of burials. Pottery was found in greater quantity than before but, again, only in mound fill where it cannot be directly associated with the burials. A total of twenty-nine burials have been recovered at the site, twelve of which were found in the Serpent Mound itself. Generally speaking, the burials may be described as being either flesh burials in the flexed position or secondary interments. Three of these individuals had been placed in shallow graves in the original surface before the mound was constructed. A wolf jaw accompanied the burials. Cremation was evident in two other cases. Partial excavation of one of the small oval mounds adjoining the Serpent Mound revealed a mass grave containing primary and secondary burials of at least seventeen individuals. Grave goods were not found although some material was recovered from the shallow fill. Preliminary excavations were carried out in the shell heaps near the shore of Rice Lake. Considerable pottery and other refuse was discovered in the stratified deposits of shell.

At this time judgments as to the cultural position and relationships of this site must be deferred until more material has been collected and fully analysed.

THE OLD INDIAN FORT SITE

By J. Norman Emerson

The annual University of Toronto "student dig" for 1957 was held at the Old Indian Fort Site in Whitchurch Township, just east of Vandorf, Ontario. This ancient village has long been known to archaeologists, historians and local residents of the area. Since it was initially described by David Boyle around 1900 sporadic digging and collection has gone on at the location. Last summer's activity by 250 students, however, marked a decade of student excavations at the University of Toronto—since the

spring of 1947 when a class of first-year premedical students set out in buses and cars to carry out the first attempt at mass archaeology in Canada upon this same site. Their findings may have been meagre, but they set a precedent that has reaped tremendous results, initiating an archaeological renaissance in Ontario. As an educational experiment, too, its success is probably unequalled in North America.

The site is located upon a high, imposing hilltop upon the northwest corner of the old Murphy Farm on the fifth concession of Whitchurch Township. A small stream to the north of the site marks part of the headwaters of the Holland River, flowing northward to Lake Simcoe. The Indian village once nestled upon the hill, some sixty feet above adjacent ground level, and appears to have been located there for defense purposes, for the steep sloping banks would have made access very difficult for enemies. Half a century ago Boyle encountered the remains of palisade walls but such evidence has now vanished. The excavation in the autumn of 1957 investigated two refuse deposit areas and put out extensive test trenches searching for evidence of long-house structures.

Archaeological data still is insufficient to fix the site in the developing picture of Ontario prehistory. The ceramic types are predominantly of Huron varieties and appear most closely related to materials found at the McKenzie village site at Woodbridge. Apart from this there are resemblances to any of a number of Huron sites in North Simcoe County. The pipe forms include the square-topped coronet type and suggest similar affinities. The finding of gaming discs argues for the late prehistoric nature of the village and also relates it to Huron. Thus it would not seem inappropriate to designate this site as "developmental Huron". It would appear that a generalized Iroquois culture had its beginnings in the lower Humber Valley and gradually moved northward to produce at least part of the complex recognized as the Huron tribal group of early historic times. The Old Indian Fort site appears part of this northward settlement path.

No ossuary has been found associated with this village, but individual burials have turned up from time to time. Our excavators encountered none. Evidence of house structures also was disappointingly scarce. Only isolated post moulds were encountered; occasionally five or six associated posts were found, suggesting wall structures, but none of the small post clusters associated with central fires in the long-house. Thus an extensive search for house patterns and orientation remains a major research problem at this site. It is hoped that eventually this will be solved and the site then can be related to the analysis of "settlement patterns" under study by archaeologists in various parts of North America.

HURON AREA ARCHAEOLOGY

By Wilfrid Jury[9]

The Indian village which was constructed in Midland in 1955 requires continual repairs, alterations, and additions. This work required our attention through the months of May and June. In June much of our time was devoted to conducting school classes and other organized groups through the village, explaining the various features and describing Huron Indian life in general.

In July the Summer School of Indian Archaeology was again held at the Officers' Quarters Museum, Penetanguishene, with field work at Forget Site, five miles south near Wyebridge. This double-palisaded Indian village site continues to prove of interest. An extensive refuse pit has been examined over the past four years and although it was not so prolific this season as in the past, it is still yielding large quantities of pottery, bone and stone artifacts, and food remains. The most spectacular find was made on July 8, when a cache of native copper specimens was discovered at a depth of 11 inches immediately within the outer palisade wall. This consisted of eight points and knives and two awls, an unusual find in the province of Ontario, particularly in association with Huron Iroquoian pottery.

Beside the double palisade, ten buildings have been outlined (that is, wall lines traced and charted). Three house sites have been thoroughly examined, site 8 in 1955, site 9 in 1955 and 1956, and site 13 in 1957. Site 13 was 110 feet long and 26 feet wide. It followed the general pattern of sites 8 and 9 with fire-pits on the approximate centre axis of the building and numerous pits with ash and sand fill of various sizes and shapes in the floor of the dwelling. Artifactual finds, pits, fire-pits, and large numbers of small charred post moulds were concentrated in the centre of the building while either end was comparatively barren. The wall lines were straight with corners and two four-foot openings, one in each of the end walls. Copper was found within house site 13 in a pit of mixed sand and ash fill—four bands of pounded copper, elongated triangles in shape, closely compressed, possibly at one time bound together. Pottery and two small round stones were also in the pit. Altogether six separate finds of native copper have been made at the Forget site.

In August we returned to the old Military Establishment at Penetanguishene where we had conducted archaeological investigations in 1952, 1953, and 1954. Reconstructional work was done there along with rearrangements and some structural changes in the Officers' Quarters built in 1830, now a Museum.

9. Curator, The Museum of Indian Archaeology and Pioneer Life, the University of Western Ontario.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF ALGONQUIN PARK

By C. H. D. Clarke[10]

An attempt was made to obtain specimens and information from Archaic sites on Lake Opeongo. The return from this much-disturbed area was small, though of some interest. Much of the short time available was spent in getting measurements and information from the ruins of a "camboose" or open hearth logging camp, and an adjacent ox stable for use in possible reconstruction. The Algonquin Park Museum completed an archaeological exhibit.

ONTARIO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

By Paul Sweetman[11]

The most important event in the history of the Ontario Archaeological Society's history took place during 1957 — incorporation under the Great Seal of Ontario. Thus the Society becomes the only incorporated Archaeological Society in Canada, an honour of which we are justifiably proud. Unfortunately the mere fact of incorporation does not guarantee financial affluence and we are still forced to operate on a most restricted budget. However, thanks to a loyal and enthusiastic membership we managed to fulfil our stated aims to further archaeological research in Ontario and to publish whenever possible the results of such research.

The main archaeological activity this year was the excavation of a prehistoric site on the Boyd property at Woodbridge. The urgency of this investigation was recognized by the Metropolitan Conservation Authority and it was with their co-operation that the work was undertaken during the week-end of May 18, 19 and 20. Despite inclement weather a very considerable sample of material was obtained from the site. This included a splendid snake-effigy pipe, many flint projectile points, tools of bone and antler, and a vast quantity of decorated and plain pottery fragments.

A preliminary analysis of this material suggests a rather late prehistoric occupation. The presence of several high-collared Lalonde rim-sherds is significant and one further manifestation of the relatively late termination of this important culture.

As in former years the Society has provided supervisory staff for the University of Toronto's student "digs" and many members assisted, during their holidays in many archaeological activities throughout the province, notably at the Serpent Mound and Ault Park.

At the time of writing plans for initiating an annual publication devoted to reporting the Society's work are fast maturing under the editorship of Dr. Douglas Clarke. It is hoped that this publication will provide an outlet for Canadian archaeologists and the Society welcomes manuscripts from them at any time.

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10. Supervisor of Wildlife Management, Department of Lands and Forests, Province of Ontario, Toronto.
11. President of the Ontario Archaeological Society.

AMBROSE LUTHERAN COLLEGE

Though the preceding articles are obviously varied and divergent, it is hoped that together they afford a generalized and useful picture of current activities in the field of Ontario archaeology. Certainly one is impressed with the geographical scope of the work and its wide time-depth. That so many individuals and institutions are engaged in the work reveals a healthy state of affairs for archaeological studies in Ontario. Gradually the pieces of the gigantic, three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle, covering perhaps two hundred centuries of Ontario prehistory, are being assembled for analysis and synthesis; and there is every indication that they are being investigated with increasing accuracy as well as in greater abundance.

PROVINCIAL EMPHASIS ON HISTORICAL ILLUSTRATIONS

[Students of Ontario's local history will be pleased to learn that in December 1957 Edwin C. Guillet, M.A., was appointed by the Province of Ontario to collect pictorial materials for the Provincial Archives. In response to the Editor's request, he has been kind enough to furnish the following description of his present work. Readers who can assist this project should write Mr. Guillet, care of the Department of Public Records and Archives, Province of Ontario, Queen's Park, Toronto.]

Pictorial representations have always had a place in history, but a new emphasis upon their importance has been a natural out-growth of photography, which is now considerably more than a century old. The paintings of Hogarth provide excellent social history, and artists have long depicted great battles and other notable events with a vividness which the printed page can seldom equal. Much depends on the accuracy, imagination, and skill of the artist, for we all know that West's "Death of Wolfe" shows surrounding him many men who took no part in the battle and were thousands of miles away when it occurred.

Before halftones were invented by a Canadian, William Leggo, in 1869, and for a couple of decades thereafter, the artist remained the chief source of illustrations, and it was usually the engraver on stone, wood, or steel who provided his conception for printing. In 1911 there appeared in the United States a ten-volume historical work on the American Civil War. It was the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the war, and many thousand men (only one of whom still lives in 1958) had vivid recollections of the struggle. The purpose of the publication, however, was to reproduce for the first time the thousands of photographs made at the time which had never appeared as halftones. The negatives, on glass, were in many instances available, and the photography is almost as clear as could be effected today.

My recent appointment as Research Historian in the Department of Public Records and Archives indicates an extension on a large scale of the search for illustrative materials. Many fine paintings and sketches, as well as early photographs, are already in the Archives collection, but no one has heretofore had the duty of actively searching for additions to it. There are numerous Ontario artists of earlier times whose work

is not known outside their own locality; these will henceforth be represented in the Archives by originals or copies. Photographs more than a century old, as well as more recent ones of almost equal historical value, are available throughout the Province. The most fertile source will undoubtedly be the collections of such illustrations on specialized topics or regional districts that have already been made by enthusiasts in many an Ontario locality. It is not expected, nor is it necessary, that people with such valuable hobbies will present their materials to the Archives, but I have already located collections totalling many hundreds of items whose owners are quite willing that they be copied—who are, in fact, pleased that the value of their work is receiving public recognition.

By extensive travel and research I hope to add fifty thousand illustrations to our Provincial Archives in the next few years, and the collection should be of great value to newspapermen, novelists, and historians both local and national, who will find that intensive research in that field has been done for them.

—*Edwin C. Guillet,* Research Historian, Province of Ontario.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

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THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Ontario Historical Society was organized on September 4, 1888 under the title of 'The Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario' and adopted its present name in 1898. Its object is to develop the study of history, particularly that of Ontario.

Beginning in 1899 a volume of *Papers & Records* has been published nearly every year. These volumes, I to XXXIX, contain a vast amount of information about the history of the Province. Several volumes now are out of print, but the rest are available at $4 per cloth-bound volume and $2 for those with paper covers. In 1947 the name of the publication was changed to *Ontario History* and since the beginning of 1949 it has appeared in quarterly form. *Ontario History* is sent free to all members, and issues of previous years are available at $1 per number or $3 per volume of four issues. In addition ten special volumes of documentary material have been published, the details and prices of which may be obtained by writing the Secretary-Treasurer.

General meetings of the Society have been held annually in various centres in the province. These meetings have enabled members to meet with others who are particularly interested in local and provincial history, and to visit many of the historic spots in Ontario.

The several classes of membership are: corporate, $3 a year, sustaining $10 a year, family $5, and annual, $3. Life memberships are $50. Membership is open to all societies and individuals interested in the history of Ontario. Fees should be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer, 206 Huron Street, Toronto 5.

The Executive Committee is: President, Miss Lillian R. Benson; First Vice-President, John M. Gray; Second Vice-President, Dr. George W. Spragge; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Edna Ash, 206 Huron Street, Toronto 5; Immediate Past-President, Leslie R. Gray; Additional Members, Mrs. S. C. Tolan, Dr. A. S. Hardy Hill, Dr. R. A. Preston, Miss Ruth Home, Dr. J. M. S. Careless, Miss Mabel C. Stewart, Mr. A. W. Taylor (Chairman of Museums Section), and Morris Zaslow (Editor, *Ontario History*).

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